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FREE

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Syrup's not-so-sweet spot
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VERMONT'S INDEPENDENT VOICE MARCH 27-APRIL 03 2013 VOL 18 NO 30 SEVENDAYSVT.COM

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BY *SEVEN DAYS* STAFF, P.28



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# Gunning for First

Vermont and Arizona don't have a whole lot in common. The Grand Canyon State has blazing hot deserts — we shoveled out our cars on the first day of spring. They're deep red — we're deep blue. They've got scorpions — we've got moose. So what links these geographical and political opposites? Gun rights.

Last week *Guns & Ammo* magazine released its list of the best and worst states for gun owners, and Vermont tied with Arizona at the top of the heap. The magazine's graphic confusingly said Vermont came in second and placed the state in the crosshairs (Why shoot Vermont if it's awesome for guns?), but the Green Mountain State and the Grand Canyon State are tied atop the list. Each came one point short of a perfect score of 50.

What makes Vermont so awesome for gun owners? As everyone here already knows, we own a lot of guns, we don't require a permit for carrying a concealed weapon, and we have no restrictions on the types of firearms and ammunition one can purchase.

The only thing holding the state back from a perfect score was a lack of specific laws about the Castle Doctrine, aka the right of a person to use deadly force to defend against a home intruder. And though the list was compiled before this legislative session's pending gun control legislation petered out, that didn't affect Vermont's "miscellaneous" score — maybe they knew that, like most such laws proposed here, it wasn't going anywhere.

Our neighbors in New Hampshire also landed in the top 10, securing a score of 47. Across the lake, New York didn't fare as well — the Empire State has a score of just seven. Only Washington, D.C., which got a big fat zero, is lower on the list.

## facing facts

### GAS PAINS

A House-passed transportation bill would increase the gas tax by 7 cents to pay for road improvements. Dust off that bicycle.

### CALCUTTA CALLING

Rusty DeWees should probably stick to making fun of white-sap-boiling woodchucks instead of Indian call-center workers.

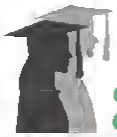
### NEWS BLUES

The *Times Argus* sold its Barre headquarters to Mayor Thom Lauzon. Maybe Hizzoner bought the Freeps building, too.

### PENSION PENALTY

It took an epidemic to get Vermont to pass a law requiring embezzlers to surrender their public pensions. Better late than never.

FACING FACTS COMPILED BY ANDY BROMAGE



**21%**

That's the cost of one year's tuition at Vermont's four-year public colleges for an in-state student, as a percentage of median household income, according to the New England Board of Education.

## TOP FIVE

MOST POPULAR ITEMS [illegible]

1. **"Vermont Brew Bracket"** Readers pick their favorite Vermont craft beers in this bracket-style tournament presented by Three Penny Taproom.
2. **"Seniority Rules: Thirty-eight Years After Going to Washington, Sen. Patrick Leahy Has Arrived"** by Paul Heintz. Now the most senior member of the U.S. Senate, Sen. Patrick Leahy is making the most of his new political clout.
3. **"For a North Country Paper Mill, Natural Gas Could Be a Lifesaver"** by Kathryn Flagg. Why New York's International Paper mill wants natural gas from Vermont — despite the protests of pipeline neighbors.
4. **Stuck in Vermont: "The Skateboarding Punk Rock Lawyer"** by Eva Sollberger. Spencer Cnspe is as comfortable in the mosh pit as he is in the courtroom.
5. **"Could the Lowline Angus Cow Save Vermont Beef?"** by Alice Levitt. Lowline Angus meat brings tasty locavore meat to new heights — if you can find it.

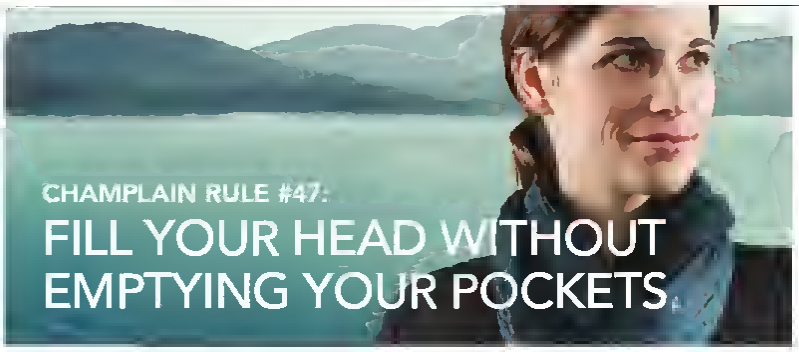
## tweet of the week:

**@TriciaCawley**

Spring has sprung... when the ground is super muddy and the dead opossum next to my car has thawed. #bfv



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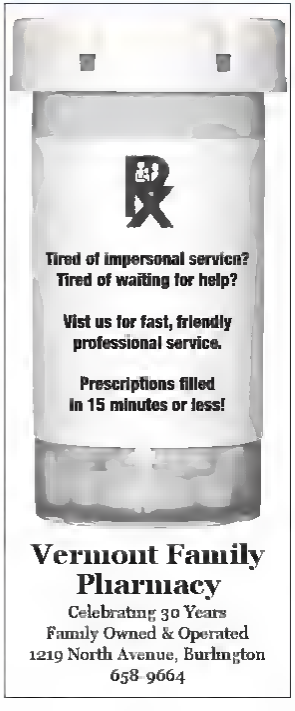

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# FEEDback

READER REACTION TO RECENT ARTICLES

## HISTORY LESSON

Last week's article ["Seniority Rules," March 20] included a pull quote from Chris Graff — "He is where no Vermonter has ever been" — referring to Sen. Leahy's ascent to president pro tempore. How could you forget one of Cornwall's most famous sons, Solomon Foot, who served as senate president pro tempore from 1861 to 1864? As a proud Cornwallian, I couldn't let his accomplishment be ignored. And how about George Edmunds of Richmond, president pro tem 1883 to 1885, and Stephen Bradley of Westminster, president pro tem from 1801 to 1803 and 1807 to 1809? All the credit goes to Wikipedia.




**Will Conlon**
CORNWALL

## ST. MIKE'S MAN

I was pleased to read your insightful story on Sen. Patrick Leahy ["Seniority Rules," March 20] and wanted your readers know he got his start earning a bachelor's degree from St. Michael's College.

**Ruff Lindau**
BURLINGTON

*Lindau is marketing and communications director of St. Michael's College.*

## WHAT'S THE DEAL?

[Re "For a North Country Paper Mill, Natural Gas Could Be a Lifesaver," March 20] So the headline says natural gas could be a lifesaver, implying that International Paper is dying. Later, writer Kathryn Flagg says IP weathered the recession all right and is now hiring. Why would natural gas be a deal breaker, then?

And the big question is: Why should Vermont be the way they get the gas instead of through New York? The cost versus the number of residences and businesses that will be hooked up in Vermont does not compute. This has got to be about getting that easement in place. Vermont Gas — a division of Gaz Metro, which is a division of Enbridge — wants more pipeline so they can hook up to the grid of pipelines across the U.S., thereby increasing demand and prices. Bye-bye, cheap gas. And who gets to subsidize this pipeline? Ratepayers and landowners who will be forced to host it.

**Nate Palmer**
MONKTON

## PAPER MILL SHOULD PAY

The IP mill seems to benefit greatly from Lake Champlain water, using 14 million gallons per day, "treating" it and then returning it to the lake ["For a North Country Paper Mill, Natural Gas Could Be

TIM NEWCOMB



a Lifesaver," March 20]. Now they want to run a natural gas pipeline under it. Lake Champlain is in dire straights with phosphorous and other pollution problems. Shouldn't IP contribute financially in a large way toward the efforts that are being made to clean up the lake?

**Ed Brennan**
DUXBURY


FILE: JEN WALLACE/SEVEN DAYS

Asiana House

## NO WAIT AT ASIANA HOUSE

We had one shot to try the new Asiana House in Montpelier ["Inland Fish," March 20] and, despite the concerns expressed in your review, decided to try it. We hit it without a reservation at 7 p.m. on a busy Saturday night. What we found was hospitality, comfortable space, instant seating and great service. The food, as you stated, was absolutely fantastic. So all in all, it was great! Thanks for the heads up.

**Greg Van Houten**
BENNINGTON

## WRONG REFERENCE

I was disappointed to read Ken Picard's article, as it seems slanted to the anti-gun side [Re "In Franklin County, a Global Arms Dealer Quietly Makes a Killing," January 23]. His reference to military assault weapons is incorrect. An assault weapon must have the ability to fire in the fully automatic mode. The rifles that Picard refers to are not assault weapons, as they are semi-automatic only. Picard also makes mention of supposed illegal arms deals without making mention of the "Fast and Furious" affair. I would like to see that question posed by the U.S. Congress answered.

**John Houston**
MILTON

## IN TUNE

You have one fine replacement for the jazz host ["Going with the Flow," September 19, 2012] on Vermont Public Radio! I had the privilege of enjoying Reuben's uniqueness when he managed our classical music workshop in Lyndonville. He shared his rich personality with us, broadening our horizons with his kind ways and reading his poetry and encouraging us to try our hand at this less-developed part of ourselves. We loved him and know he will be appreciated wherever he decides to spread himself.

**Gael Abbasi**
PHOENIXVILLE, PENN

## RENTAL ILLNESS?

Had Ken Picard's article, ["Rental Health," March 13], appeared next week, I would have been sure that it was an April Fool's joke. Is he serious when he describes the one-bedroom apartments in the new building on North Avenue renting for $1300 a month as a "bargain"? What planet is this guy living on, and can I live there, too?

Then again, maybe he is writing this article for the average *Seven Days* reader. I don't have the demographics on this paper's readership, but I am a regular reader who, based on this article, cannot relate to his perspective of this state's overpriced rental market.

With a vacancy rate that is one of the lowest in the country, Chittenden County is a "landlord's market" that allows these businessmen and women to gouge renters for living spaces that are, from what I've seen, barely livable. In this landlord's market, not only are rentals overpriced, but the situation allows them to use their leverage to charge extra monthly fees and even raise rent for tenants who happen to appreciate and care for the furry, four-legged companions so many of us love.

Interestingly, in the same week this article appeared, two local housing agencies announced cuts to their programs. These cuts lower the amount of the subsidies that they will allow for recipients of Section 8, effectively making it ever more challenging for some renters to secure decent housing. In light of these observations, I believe Ken Picard's article would be more aptly titled "Rental Illness."

**M M Kemp**
WINOOSKI

## PIPELINE'S A PROBLEM

There is nothing natural about the gas or the pipeline to go under Lake Champlain ["For a North Country Paper Mill, Natural Gas Could Be a Lifesaver," March 20]. The gas comes from fracking, and the pipeline will destroy communities. The whole thing is an environmental disaster.

**Cornelia Baker**
BETHEL, CONN

## PROTECT OUR FOOD

One of my favorite things about Vermont is the food. I love knowing where my food is coming from, which is why I have a CSA share, enjoy going to restaurants that feature local options like the ones in [Side Dishes, "Leftover Food News. Woodstock Food Gets National Press, Locavore Group in Burlington," January 30] and try to buy local foods. Vermont's locavore movement demonstrates how important farmers are to our communities.

Not only do Vermont farmers need our support through our decisions to eat more local foods, but also in our efforts get genetically engineered foods labeled ["Who's Trying to Kill the GMO Bill?" February 27]. Oftentimes farmers that do not meet organic standards but chose not to use GE ingredients have no way of distinguishing themselves from genetically engineered products. Although the labeling of GMOs has a lot of support amongst Vermonters, big chemical companies have blocked past efforts to enact labeling laws in Congress and the Vermont legislature.

The principles of the locavore movement go beyond just supporting our local farmers; it is about connecting with our food, knowing where it is coming from and what is being put into our bodies. Having GE foods labeled would work to strengthen this. We as consumers need to fight for our right to know what is in our food. I urge consumers to contact your legislature to let them know where you stand on our GMO labeling rights.

**Elizabeth Boehmer**
BURLINGTON

## CORRECTION

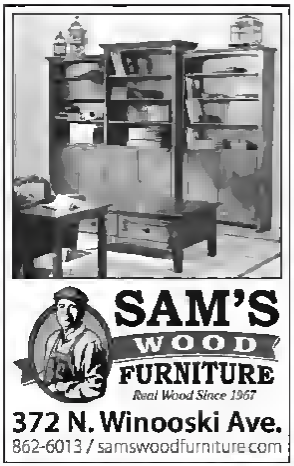
In last week's food story, "Paint It Black," writer Alice Levitt gave the subject a little more credit than he deserved. Hinesburg cattle farmer Paul List is indeed a violinist, but he did not play on a 1997 album of Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations*. He "interpreted the music" and produced the CD with the late pianist Susan Halligan.

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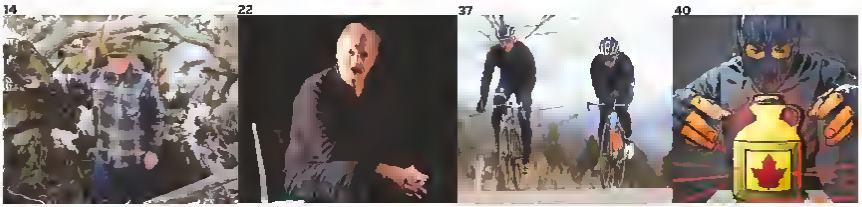
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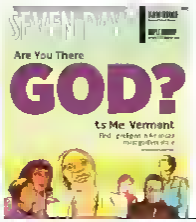
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# special events




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*Wednesday, April 24, 7-8 p.m. Higher Ground Ballroom, So. Burlington. Tickets on sale April 1. $15 adv./$20. highergroundmusic.com.*

***Find menus, events and contest info at:***
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## FOODIE FLICK: *JIRO DREAMS OF SUSHI*

*Sunday, April 28. Cocktail hour 4 p.m., movie 5 p.m. Palace 9 Cinemas, So. Burlington. $7.50*

To some, sushi is just raw fish. To Jiro Ono, it's a life's work. This film examines the relentless pursuit of perfection that has won Ono a 10-seat Tokyo restaurant three Michelin stars and famous fans, including chef



Joel Robuchon. Like the best sushi, it will touch your heart and your taste buds. The prescreening cocktail hour features sushi snacks, DFV wines, Shipyard brews and Vermont White Vodka.

## CULINARY PUB QUIZ

*Tuesday, April 30, 6:30-9 p.m. Nectar's, Burlington. No cover*

Compete for prizes in seven rounds of foodie trivia hosted by *Seven Days* and Top Hat Entertainment. The top team wins a $500 gift card to Burton's flagship store. Limited space. Preregister on the Vermont Restaurant Week website by April 26.

## SALON: THE REAL COST OF LOCAL FOOD

*Wednesday, May 1, 5:30-7 p.m. Signal Kitchen, Burlington. $5 donation.*

Vermont may be an epicenter for farm-to-table cuisine, but farmers and restaurateurs still grapple with the challenge of getting fresh, local food onto your plate. Discuss the topic with Blue Bird restaurateur Sue Bette, Jericho Settler's Farm co-owner Christa Alexander, food system pragmatist Sean Buchanan of Black River Produce and Vermont Butter and Cheese Creamery co-founder Alison Hooper. *Seven Days* co-founder Pamela Polston moderates.

## CHILDCARE: PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

*Friday, May 3, 6-8:30 p.m. & Saturday, May 4, 5:30-8 p.m. $10/$18*

Childcare for kids ages 2-12 at the Greater Burlington YMCA. Preregistration required. 882-9622.

## SALSA SATURDAY

*Saturday, May 4, 4:30-7 p.m. Red Square, Burlington. $5 donation.*

Round out your Restaurant Week adventure with the "Cuatro de Mayo" finale featuring a homemade salsa competition, salsa dance lessons and salsa tunes by DJ Hector Cobeo. Sample treats from Vermont Butter and Cheese, Vermont White Vodka and, salsa, of course!

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# the MAGNIFICENT 7

MUST SEE, MUST DO THIS WEEK

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## 1

THURSDAY 28

### SLAM DUNK

When the **Harlem Globetrotters** hit the court, basketball gets turned upside down — in a good way. Known worldwide for their signature blend of charisma, athleticism and comedic timing, team members dribble their way into spectators' hearts with "You Write the Rules," which encourages audience participation.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 51

## 2

SATURDAY 30

### SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS STRETCHING

Looking to limber up after a long winter? Join local yoga teachers at **Vinyasa for Vermont**, a unique fundraising event created in response to the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene. This year, yogis of all skill levels synchronize breath, body and intention in a 90-minute class to benefit Hunger Free Vermont.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 52

## 3

WEDNESDAY 03

### Shelf Life

**Sandor Katz**, aka "Sandorkraut," knows a thing or two about making sauerkraut and other live-culture foods. Recipes for this nutrient-rich fare featured in the best-selling author's newest book, *The Art of Fermentation*, reflect his passion for cooking, nutrition and gardening. The DIY activist discusses how the ancient practice of preservation relates to local and global food systems.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 55

## 4

WEDNESDAY 03

### Checkmate!

Chess as a means of flirtation? Such was the case for medieval players, as presented by Dartmouth College professor **Jane Cerrell**, who examines the cultural significance of the strategic game during the Middle Ages. Whether as an allegory for battle, a status symbol or a metaphor for love, every move counted.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 55

## 5

THURSDAY 28

### Music Makers

Turn the radio to an oldies station, and eventually "Oh What a Night," "Walk Like a Man" or "Sherry" will hit the airwaves. With equal parts harmony and personality, the Four Seasons belted out these popular tunes — and many more — from the 1960s to '80s. The members of the foursome, who famously backed Frankie Valli, reemerge as **the Hit Men** and dazzle audiences with their iconic voices.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 51

## 6

FRIDAY 29

### Keeping the Beat

When **Nicki Bluhm and the Gramblers** take the stage, it's easy to imagine it's the 1960s or '70s. Clad in vintage attire, the San Francisco-based band's country soul sound comes alive through strong guitar riffs and Bluhm's powerful pipes, which channel Bonnie Raitt and Fleetwood Mac. You Me & Apollo join the group at Higher Ground.

SEE INTERVIEW ON PAGE 60

## 7

ONGOING

### Sportscast

Andy Warhol's lithographs of Campbell's soup cans and Marilyn Monroe are pop art's most iconic images. But the artist's 1977 **"Athletes Series"** is rarely shown. Richard Weisman commissioned the project, in which Warhol snapped Polaroid portraits of 10 sports stars — including golfer Jack Nicklaus, ice skater Dorothy Hamill and football great O.J. Simpson — then transferred the images to canvas and splashed them with acrylic paint. The Fleming Museum displays prints of this compelling work — of which only a few sets remain.

SEE REVIEW ON PAGE 70

COURTESY OF THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS



# Tax to Grind

So who's gonna blink first House Speaker **SHAP SMITH** or Gov **PETER SHUMLIN**?

That's the question this week as the Vermont House considers $23 million in new taxes cobbled together by Smith's leadership team and vehemently opposed by the governor.

While the speaker's plan will almost surely pass the Democrat-dominated chamber he controls, it faces an uncertain future in the Senate. And though the gov likes to say he doesn't issue veto threats, that's essentially what he did last Friday in a tough talking statement making clear he "strongly disagree[s]" with Smith's proposal.

Shummy's beef?

The House plan eviscerates the centerpiece of his "Path to Prosperity" agenda by investing just $3 million in childcare subsidies instead of the $17 million he requested.

Worse, Smith and his cronies go after the most holy of Shumlin's sacred cows: the broad-based tax. Defined by governors past and present as the income, sales, rooms and meals taxes, these are not to be increased by anyone ever, Shumlin has long argued.

Smith's plan would raise three of the four.

In next year's budget, the speaker would raise a few million dollars here and there by nixing sales-tax exemptions currently enjoyed by candy, soda, bottled water, dietary supplements and expensive clothing. He'd add another 50 cents to the cost of a pack of cigarettes — and increase the meals tax by half a percent for a year.

But that's all chump change compared with the $27 million Smith and co. hope to raise the following year by hiking income taxes on the wealthiest Vermonters. They'd accomplish that by capping itemized deductions, collapsing a tax bracket and subjecting the richest to a higher bottom tax rate.

All of which is totally bummin' Shummy out.

"I have repeatedly opposed increases to income, meals and sales taxes, and yet this proposal hits all three," the self-styled fiscal conservative said in Friday's statement, adding that the plan "increases Vermont's already high tax burden."

On the face of it, Shumlin would seem to hold the rhetorical higher ground. After all, taxes bad, childcare funding good. And sure enough, the business community hates the House tax plan, which — to borrow one of the more popular expressions uttered in the Statehouse last week — gores many of its bulls.

"There's not much in the tax package we like," says **BETSY BISHOP**, president of the Vermont Chamber of Commerce. "We supported the governor's stance on not raising broad-based taxes and this proposal definitely goes against that."

So what on Earth is House leadership thinking?

To understand that, first you have to take a look at the only other alternative on the table: the budget Shumlin himself rolled out in January.

> THE GOVERNOR'S CALL TO TAKE A SERIOUS CHUNK OUT OF LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS WAS JUST A NONSTARTER IN THE LEGISLATURE.
>
> **REP CHRIS PEARSON**

In that proposal, the governor suggested two sources to fund his childcare and energy priorities. The first would raise $17 million by taxing break-open tickets — those lottery-like doohickeys allegedly sold at American Legion halls and elsewhere. The second would lop $17 million off the state's match to the federal Earned Income Tax Credit, which currently provides 44,000 working Vermonters with a tax break or lump-sum payment.

Both ideas landed with a thud in the legislature.

Few believed that taxing the heretofore unknown break-open tickets would bring in $17 million — least of all legislative economists, who pegged their value at closer to $6 million. Fewer still were jonesing to pay for childcare subsidies by sticking it to poor, working Vermonters.

"The governor's call to take a serious chunk out of low-income programs was just a nonstarter in the legislature — and to my great relief," says Rep **CHRIS PEARSON** (P-Burlington), who chairs the Progressive caucus.

Smith himself says, "I appreciate that [Shumlin] wanted to put more money into childcare, but I'm not sure you do that by reallocating money from the working poor."

Perhaps the weirdest thing about the governor's plan is that he never seemed to put in the grunt work to actually sell it. Legislators uniformly say they were taken by surprise when he rolled out its components during his inaugural and budget addresses in January. And his public pitch amounted to a smattering of press conferences during which he defensively argued his plan was an inviolable "package," the constituent elements of which should not be considered separately.

Right.

Anyway, after Shumlin's funding sources appeared to disintegrate, House leadership went back to the drawing board to figure out how much they could invest in new priorities.

The answer? $20 million. That's how much Smith told the House Ways & Means committee to raise and the House Appropriations committee to spend.

If that sounds like an arbitrary number to you, well, it kind of is.

Here's Smith's explanation: "It was a ballpark figure based on conversations I had with the chair of the Appropriations committee, the chair of the Ways & Means committee and other people in the building after looking at all the numbers we had in front of us."

Got it? Didn't think so.

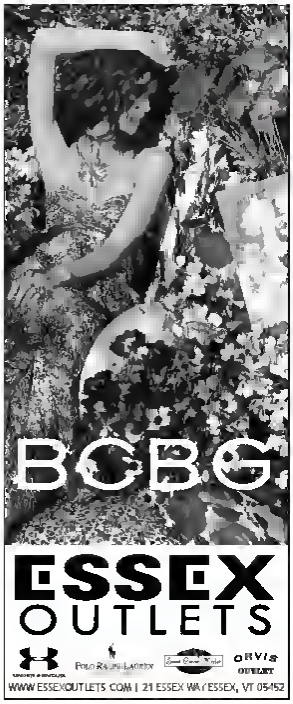
"It's not clear to me and it was not clear to other members how much money we need to raise," says Rep. **ADAM GRESHIN** (I-Warren), who serves on the tax-writing committee. "We heard vague calls for $20 million, but we didn't know what those $20 million would be put to."

The search for the elusive $20 million led to a circuslike atmosphere in Ways & Means last week as committee members sought to pick and choose from a menu of 23 potential taxes. Some would solve the problem in one fell swoop — like a new tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, which would raise $24 million. Others, like taxing vending-machine sales, would bring in a paltry $1.3 million.

Rep **PETTI KOMLINE** (R-Dorset), who serves on the committee, says she was disheartened by the process, which was dominated by lobbyists trying to save their clients' hides.

"I was really depressed going home last week," she says. "I was appalled at how arbitrarily we came to these taxes. It really was spin the wheel and see who it lands on. That's how we're going to go for the money."

But Rep **JANET ANCEL** (D-Calais), who






chairs the Ways & Means committee, sees it differently. Given the task of finding $20 million, she thinks her committee came up with a balanced plan that spreads the pain broadly.

"We could've done something that targets just one activity or one group of taxpayers, but we found a way to make sure nobody is hurt a lot," she says. "The responsibility for higher taxes is really shared across a larger group of taxpayers, and we thought that was a better way to go."

Of course, that responsibility is shared a lot more by the wealthy, given the House's proposed changes to the high end of the income-tax scale. And that has supporters of progressive taxation totally jazzed.

"By going to the income tax, they're going to be raising more money on the basis of ability to pay," says JACK HOFFMAN, senior analyst at the Montpelier-based Public Assets Institute. "We think that's certainly better than hitting people at the bottom."

"I think on the whole it's pretty well done," echoes Pearson, who's not one to publicly praise his Democratic brethren. "They clearly have heard the call that low-income and middle-income Vermonters can't afford to pay more, and their package mostly looks to wealthy Vermonters and makes them contribute."

But as Smith and the rest of House leadership look to sell their plan to their caucus, the Senate and, most importantly, the public, don't expect to hear a lot of "soak the rich" rhetoric.

Smith's talking points? The House plan would actually raise less, spend less and put aside more for future fiscal emergencies than the governor's plan. Furthermore, it would get a head start on *next year's* fiscal woes by setting up the income-tax hike now.

In other words, Smith seems to be saying, *I've got my big boy pants on and I'm gonna be the grown-up in this discussion.*

Smith might be right, but it'll be a tough sell to the average Vermonter if Shumlin demagogues the tax issue. After all, the governor and the legislature alike are already asking the public to swallow a 7-cent-per-gallon gasoline tax hike.

And you can expect a certain conservative super PAC to weigh in with a television commercial script that goes something like this: "Super majority Democrats in Montpelier are trying to raise taxes on your paycheck, your gas tank, your kid's winter coat, your Mountain Dew, your Kit Kat bar, your Marlboros and your next meal at Applebee's."

And, well, they wouldn't be wrong. So where do we go from here?

The budget ball now gets passed to the Senate — the least predictable institution in the state of Vermont. What they'll do is anybody's guess.

Senate President pro tempore JOHN CAMPBELL (D-Windsor), who nominally controls the body, appears to be tacking to the fiscally conservative end of the discussion, where he'll likely be joined by a number of Senate old-timers.

"Vermonters have reached a tax saturation point," he says. "I'm not opposed to not funding new programs."

But Campbell will have to contend with a coterie of more progressive members, who make up a sizable portion of his caucus — if not the entire Senate. Among them is Sen. TIM ASHE (D/P-Burlington), who, as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, will actually be charged with writing the tax bill.

**POLITICS**

Ashe won't say what new funding sources — if any — he prefers, but he sounds far more comfortable with Smith's approach than Shumlin's.

"The governor proposed taking cash out of the pockets of low-income working people," Ashe says, "and the House Ways & Means committee at least considered it might be more appropriate to reduce the tax advantage of second- or third-homeowners, who may or may not live in this state or country."

In the end, the budget-writing process tends to more closely resemble Kabuki theater than a game of chicken. Don't expect a Democratic governor to veto a Democratic legislature's budget — and don't expect the legislature to force him to do so.

The singing and dancing will continue for some time, but at the end of the day, a handful of people will come to a compromise behind a closed door in the Statehouse. And nobody will be happy.

As Campbell puts it, "This is all part of the dance." ⑦

(Disclosure: Tim Ashe is the domestic partner of *Seven Days* publisher and coeditor Paula Routly.)

Listen to Paul Wednesday mornings at 7:40 a.m. on WVMT 620 AM

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# Vermont's Rain-Barrel Project: Lake Saver or Drop in the Bucket?

BY KATHRYN FLAGG

ENVIRONMENT



Jim Kleptz

Forget bears and cows. This summer, brightly painted rain barrels will line Church and College streets in downtown Burlington. Part public art display and part educational campaign, the 20 barrels — each decorated by a different local artist — are meant to encourage homeowners to collect pollutant-laden storm water before it rushes too fast into rivers and Lake Champlain.

The project is being funded by a $40,000 grant from the ECOS Project, a nonprofit whose tagline is "a sustainable future for Chittenden County," that was awarded to a coalition that includes the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District, ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center, the Church Street Marketplace and ArtsRiot.

Rain barrels might seem like an entirely uncontroversial thing, but they are touching off debate — more than a month before their May debut — about how best to control runoff, especially from urban developments. No one thinks rain barrels alone will solve the lake's pollution problem, but organizers hope the display will educate the public about simple ways they can help.

Skeptics like Jim Kleptz, a Shelburne farmer who owns LaPlatte River Angus, say the amount of water collected by the barrels is a drop in the bucket — literally and figuratively — that could actually discourage the public from tackling bigger solutions to water pollution. Kleptz says he was "riled up" after receiving a recent mailing about financial incentives for homeowners who install rain barrels and rain gardens.

"There is the mentality that, if we do something, it's going to be better than it was. Something is better than nothing," Kleptz says. "And that attitude is what's got us where we are now."

"Where we are now," in Kleptz's view, is perhaps best illustrated by an enormous white oak that until recently stood along the banks of the LaPlatte River in a field where he cuts hay for his beef herd. He guesses the tree was 150 years old — too wide for a man to wrap his arms around. Last year, the oak toppled into the river, and today it is dead and gnarled as the river runs around it.

Kleptz blames the tree's demise on increased storm water runoff from development. A resident of Shelburne since 1971, he's watched farm fields give way to suburban developments in which houses are "packed in there like cord wood."

Increased storm water runoff is bad news for local streams and for the watersheds they feed. When water rushes along impervious surfaces, streams become "flashier" during storms, causing a whole host of problems: erosion, increased pollutant and nutrient loads, and heightened water temperatures, among other concerns.

A retired systems engineer who worked nearly three decades for General Electric, Kleptz took an early interest in water quality after moving to Vermont. He's made it a pet project in recent years, piping up at Shelburne planning and zoning meetings and generating applause with his remarks at conferences on the health of Lake Champlain.

The root cause of storm water problems, Kleptz explains, is anything that diminishes the "storage capacity" that's built in to most natural, undeveloped land. When a homeowner or developer constructs impervious surfaces — like a roof, garage and driveway — they're removing opportunities for water to naturally soak into the soil, where it can be released slowly over time. Kleptz has crunched the numbers and, by his calculations, a 1500-square-foot house — with a garage, driveway and stretch of paved road in front of the home — eliminates some 13,000 gallons of water storage capacity from the landscape.

Farmers contribute to the problem too, says Kleptz, by planting row crops, such as corn, that strip organic content from soil that would otherwise soak up water.

"The solution is you have to put the storage back in the system," says Kleptz. And a rain barrel — which collects in the neighborhood of 55 gallons of water at a time — doesn't come close. What's more, Kleptz worries that small-scale improvements to divert storm water leave homeowners feeling complacent and "mentally content that their property is not contributing to pollution."

Kleptz isn't against rain barrels and believes that most homeowners who use them are genuinely concerned about the state of water quality in Vermont. However, he bristles at the notion of using grant funding or taxpayer dollars to pay for them.

"They're chewing up the lumber around the nail, but not hitting the nail on the head," says Kleptz. He believes Vermont needs big fixes that will require spending money, moving earth and reimagining development.

Some Vermont towns are doing the big things. South Burlington spent $1 million last year on large-scale storm water improvements. More such projects are in the works, including an overhauled retention pond serving six condominium complexes and one single-family home development along Hayes Avenue, off Route 116. The original pond no longer meets current standards for storm water treatment, and runoff from the developments is going untreated into Potash Brook.

"I think there is progress, and we just haven't done the best job of letting people know," says Tom DiPietro, South Burlington's deputy director for Public Works. Even so, he warns that South Burlington residents need to brace themselves for what's coming. "We're going to have to spend millions of dollars over the next 20 years for some of these large-scale projects," he says.

Other cities and towns are exploring innovative techniques, too. Burlington has experimented with "silva cells," underground soil cells that store more water. Other towns use routine maintenance — like street sweeping — to

keep road sand and dirt out of streams and culverts. And at Burlington International Airport, privately held Heritage Aviation has installed a green roof, a cistern and engineered landscaping such as swales and dry detention beds to capture rainwater before it rushes into a nearby impaired stream. Such fixes require both money and forward-thinking developers.

Smaller-scale efforts have made a dent, too. The Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District is working in collaboration with the Lake Champlain Sea Grant on a program called "Let It Rain" that provides money for homeowners to install rain barrels, rain gardens, cisterns, green roofs, permeable pavers or other "green architecture."

The program started last year with a $25,000 state grant and a goal to offset water from 25,000 square feet of impervious surfaces. By June, the program estimates it will have far exceeded that target amount — offsetting runoff from more than 300,000 square feet of impervious surface, an area roughly equal to five football fields.

Lake advocates and storm water experts agree that Kleptz's analysis about water storage is sound. Asked about the most "innovative" approaches to managing runoff, Jim Pease, an environmental scientist with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources' watershed management division, says, "It's called low-impact development." In the long run, Pease says, working with native soils to absorb water is one of the most effective solutions to runoff. And, he says, it can actually be cheaper in the long run for developers to choose "green" infrastructure.

What role do homeowners — and rain barrels — play in all of this?

"When you get hundreds and thousands of people [making changes], it adds up," says Ross Saxton, the director of conservation and education at Lake Champlain International.

The problem is that most people aren't chipping in — "not yet," Saxton says. Given the annual hand-wringing over closed beaches, algae blooms and water quality in Lake Champlain, he doesn't know why that's the case. Ultimately he believes it boils down to one-on-one conversations: knocking on doors and talking to people about what they can do.

"That might not be the most cost efficient way, but it's the most effective," says Saxton.

Regarding the cost, Saxton says he's sympathetic to people like Kleptz who object to public money paying for rain barrels, rain gardens and the like. "I think it'll get some people educated, but I don't think it's going to motivate many people to adopt pollution prevention features on their own property," says Saxton. "It's a step ... but I think the funds could be spent better, and in other places."

**RAIN BARRELS MIGHT SEEM LIKE AN ENTIRELY UNCONTROVERSIAL THING, BUT THEY ARE TOUCHING OFF DEBATE — MORE THAN A MONTH BEFORE THEIR MAY DEBUT.**

Rebecca Tharp, district manager for the Winooski Conservation District, admits that rain barrels can't offset a residence's entire storm water runoff; a half-inch rainstorm will send somewhere in the neighborhood of 600 gallons of water sheeting off a roof — far more than a 55-gallon rain barrel can absorb. But she's also confident that rain barrels are a good "first step" for homeowners to take and hopes this summer's display gets more people talking — and acting — at home.

"It can be this non-threatening way to get involved and start taking responsibility for some of the deleterious effects our development is having on the lake," says Tharp. "It's really about a paradigm shift ... Our infrastructure has been built on the idea of getting water into a pipe and away from buildings as fast as possible, and we're only now realizing that has significant consequences to our environment." ⑦



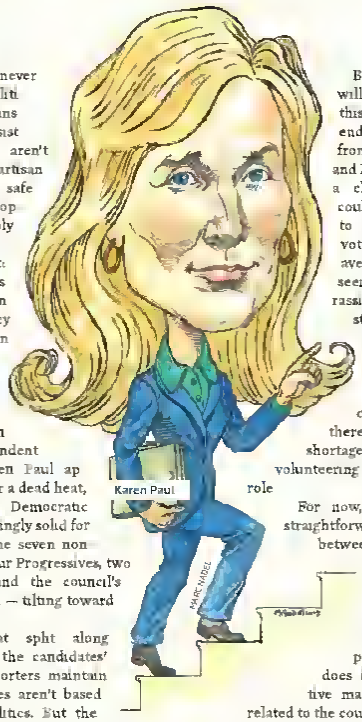






# Madam President: Which Woman Will Lead the Burlington City Council?

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY




Whenever politicians insist their actions aren't motivated by partisan interests, it's safe to assume the opposite is probably true.

Case in point: the April Fool's Day showdown for the presidency of the Burlington City Council. The race between incumbent Democrat Joan Shannon and independent challenger Karen Paul appears headed for a dead heat, with all seven Democratic councilors seemingly solid for Shannon and the seven non-Democrats — four Progressives, two independents and the council's lone Republican — tilting toward Paul.

Despite that split along factional lines, the candidates' respective supporters maintain their preferences aren't based on partisan politics. But the fact remains: The struggle for control of the council gavel is central to the struggle for political ascendancy in the Queen City. Both sides want to translate their March election victories into power to set the agenda.

As the largest bloc on the council, the Democrats believe they're entitled to emcee the Monday night council meetings in City Hall Auditorium. Everyone else worries that a Democratic council president, in cahoots with the Democratic mayor, will solidify Burlington as a one-party city and steamroll minority interests.

Having gained a fourth council seat on Town Meeting Day, Progressives see themselves as making a full recovery from the wasting disease brought on by the Burlington Telecom scandal. The Progs are determined to prevent the Dems from claiming the city's second most powerful elected office. "We'll be voting as a bloc," says Councilor Rachel Siegel (P-Ward 3).

But councilors will also be listening this coming weekend to sales pitches from both Shannon and Paul. It's possible a closed-door deal could be made prior to next Monday's vote in order to avert what could be seen as an embarrassing, Washington-style inability to compromise. That could lead to agreement on a third candidate — and there would be no shortage of councilors volunteering to step into that role.

For now, though, it's a straightforward face-off between two women generally respected by their elected peers. And in addition to pure politics, the race does involve substantive matters and issues related to the council's process.

Some of Paul's backers complain that Shannon has failed to ensure that all 10 council committees meet regularly. The Public Safety Committee has not gotten together in over a year, even though its agenda includes controversies such as the council's move to ban assault weapons in Burlington.

"I've asked her several times to convene that committee," says Councilor Max Tracy (P-Ward 2). The Old North End section he represents is suffering the effects of "a heroin epidemic," Tracy says, but the council committee that should be addressing it is missing in action.

'That's a fair criticism,' Shannon concedes. She agrees she should have leaned harder on committee chairman Bram Kranichfeld, a Democrat who didn't seek reelection to the council. "There's going to be a new chair," Shannon promises. "Things will be different this year."

Another Democrat, Dave Hartnett of Ward 4, offers to take the fall for Shannon. A member of the Public Safety Committee, Hartnett says it's his fault that the panel didn't meet. It's not the council president's responsibility to prod committee members into doing their duty, Hartnett suggests. "We don't need to be babysat all the time."

The composition of committees is another source of disgruntlement for Paul supporters. They charge Shannon with playing political favorites in the appointment process. Councilor Paul Decelles (R-Ward 7) recalls that Prog-friendly independent Councilor Sharon Bushor was unceremoniously ousted last year as chair of the Human Resources Committee. Democrat Norm Blais, then serving his first term, replaced Bushor, who has been on the council for 25 years.

For her part, Bushor says her vote for Paul won't be an act of retaliation for that ouster. Bushor does note, however, that she wasn't warned she'd be losing the committee chair and says the council president should make sure such decisions don't catch councilors "by surprise on the night when they're announced."

"You need to have difficult conversations with councilors in advance," says Bushor, who was council president for four years.

Hartnett defends Shannon against this criticism, too. "It's impossible to please all 14 councilors when it comes to committee assignments," he says. "I wanted Parks [Arts and Culture] in the worst way. I didn't get it, and you know what? I moved on."

Hartnett has credibility when he claims, 'I'm not supporting Joan because she's another Democrat." He doesn't attend the party's Sunday night caucuses, and he occasionally votes against proposals favored by Democratic Mayor Miro Weinberger and the council's Democratic bloc. "I'm supporting her because she's done a good job," Hartnett explains.

None of Paul's supporters are critical of the way Shannon has run council meetings during the year she's been in charge. "She's been fair," says Siegel, who occupies the seat beside Shannon at council meetings. Siegel's fellow Ward 3 Prog, Vince Brennan, complains that Shannon hasn't always been forthcoming with information, "but I'm not saying she's hidden anything from us purposefully." Jane Knodell, another former council president who's returning to the council after a four-year hiatus, adds, "Joan runs a good meeting."

Some councilors do grouse, however, that Shannon has on occasion scurried to do the mayor's bidding. They point specifically to pressure from the council president for quick action in support of Weinberger's "fiscal stability bond."

"I cast the only vote against it, but it seemed that night that about three-quarters of the council had misgivings about it," Decelles recalls in regard to the $9 million bond issue that Weinberger said was vital to the city's solvency. Knodell adds, "If I had been on the council then, I'd certainly have wanted more time to consider that."

In her own defense, Shannon says the council needed to act quickly in order to get the bond onto last November's ballot. It subsequently won support from more than 70 percent of the city's voters.

**POLITICS**

**THE STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF THE COUNCIL GAVEL IS CENTRAL TO THE STRUGGLE FOR POLITICAL ASCENDANCY IN THE QUEEN CITY.**

For some councilors, the vote is less about how the council is run than who controls the agenda — and about establishing an alternate power base to counterbalance the mayor's office.

"City government works best with strong checks and balances," Tracy philosophizes. "We need a city council that's not afraid to ask questions and to hold the mayor's feet to the fire, especially on finance issues." Knodell agrees, noting, "The Democrats worked hard to win an eight-seat council majority. They didn't get there. Now we need a healthy balance of power."

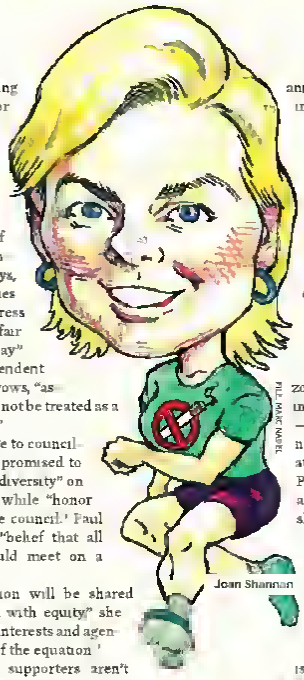
Paul, who has represented Ward 6 in the Hill Section for the past five years, alluded to all these points in a recent email

message asking councilors for their support. She made similar comments in an interview on Monday.

Referring to the matter of committee assignments, Paul says, "There's no question I could address it in a more fair and equitable way." Under her independent leadership, Paul vows, "assignments would not be treated as a reward for votes."

In her message to councilors, Paul further promised to ensure "political diversity" on each committee while "honoring tenure on the council." Paul also stated her "belief that all committees should meet on a regular basis.

'All information will be shared immediately and with equity," she added. "Political interests and agendas are not part of the equation."



FILE: MARC NADEL

Joan Shannan

announcing various initiatives.

Shannon, 48, also sees herself as more public-spirited than political. She says she takes pride in presiding over "civil discussion" on emotional issues such as gun control, the police rubber bullet barrage aimed at protesters last summer and creating a safe zone for women seeking health services" — a reference to the no protest zone created around Planned Parenthood. Shannon also touts her leadership in bringing the full council into discussions with city department heads as part of the budget-building process. "Going paperless" is another council initiative she has worked to implement, Shannon points out.

Paul's liberal supporters aren't necessarily backing her because they view her as left of Shannon. Asked to compare the candidates' politics, Bushor says, "They're about the same." Brennan has concerns about Paul's "business emphasis," adding that he's "had to educate her on the benefits of the livable wage." Siegel describes Paul's politics as being "all over the board." It's hard to predict how she'll vote on some issues, Siegel says, hastening to add, "That makes her a true independent."

Paul, 51, describes herself as a "fiscal conservative and a social liberal." On her city councilor website, the fourth-generation Burlingtonian says she eschews party labels because "I believe in going [sic] what is practical and not political." Paul also cites her service on numerous public and nonprofit boards. Most of her colleagues respect Paul's expertise on financial issues, which she demonstrates by sometimes challenging the claims and performance of the Weinberger administration. But Paul has also literally stood by the mayor's side at news conferences

Apart from the ego massage the council presidency provides, it isn't clear why anyone would want the job. It doesn't pay any more than the annual $3000 stipend every councilor gets, but entails significantly more work. Shannon figures she spends at least 20 hours a week on council business.

Both candidates have children. Shannon has a 10-year-old daughter, Paul is the mother of three teens, two of whom still live at home. They're career women as well. Shannon works as a realtor, and Paul runs a financial-planning firm.

A couple of their colleagues see another motivation underlying the council president's race. They believe both candidates harbor mayoral aspirations. That may help explain the current competition, even as each denies she is running in opposition to the other. ⑦





Wings!

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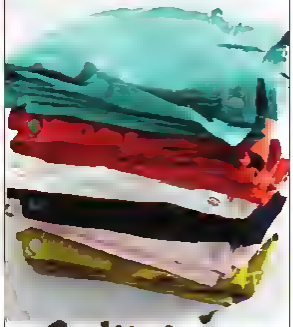
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# IBM Wants to Help Burlington Reduce Its Carbon Footprint — No Strings Attached

BY KEN PICARD

The last time a Burlington mayor proposed partnering with a multinational corporation to reduce the Queen City's carbon footprint, things ended badly. In 2010, Bob Kiss encountered pushback from city council and a revolt from his Progressive base for inking a deal with Lockheed Martin on its "Carbon War Room" initiative.

So far, no one's batting an eye at Mayor Miro Weinberger's willingness to welcome IBM consultants to town for a three-week brainstorming session on ways to reduce Burlington's greenhouse-gas emissions. Perhaps it's because this multinational has local ties.

Last year, Burlington became the smallest city in the United States — and the second smallest in the world — to win an IBM "Smarter Cities Challenge" grant. The global technology giant's three-year, $50 million initiative is helping 100 cities around the world become safer, sustainable and more livable — at no charge to taxpayers. Each city had to identify an urban problem for IBM to tackle. In Burlington's case, how to use energy more efficiently and lower its utility costs.

The team of six consultants from IBM's worldwide staff arrives on Monday, April 1. During the first week, they're scheduled to meet with city officials and representatives from Burlington Electric Department, the University of Vermont, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Champlain College, Chittenden County Transportation Authority and other stakeholder groups. During week two, the team will sit down, roll up its sleeves and begin crafting possible solutions. In week three, it'll reconnoiter with the mayor, city council, stakeholders and the public and offer its recommendations for making improvements as cost effectively as possible.

Burlington has no obligation to heed IBM's advice or to buy any of its products. Says Weinberger, "The only obligation we've made is to engage them while they're here."

Likewise, IBM doesn't provide the city with any cash to implement its recommendations, the $400,000 "grant" is simply the value of the company's donated time and expertise.

Big Blue's motives aren't entirely altruistic. Nearly every grant recipient has an existing relationship with IBM, so the corporation is already familiar with each city and the challenges it faces. IBM Essex Junction — often referred to globally as "IBM Burlington" — is Vermont's second-largest private employer. Part of IBM's goal is to make the communities in which it operates more livable and thus more attractive to potential employees. "It's definitely a win-win situation," says corporate spokesperson Ari Fishkind.

ENERGY




COURTESY OF SMARTER CITIES CHALLENGE

Smarter Cities Challenge 2013 Winners

IBM also looks for a city that has "leadership that wants to see positive change ... and has actually taken steps to make it a reality," Fishkind explains. That helped Burlington's case, he says, because its "progressive, energetic and forward-thinking leadership" had already made carbon reduction "a top priority."

Weinberger's take: IBM doesn't "want to bring in people from around the world, do a big report and then have it sit on a shelf somewhere."

Fishkind won't reveal the names of the six Burlington-bound experts except to say that they come from Germany, France, the Czech Republic, Brazil, Rochester, NY, and Oregon. The team won't include any Vermont IBM personnel. The idea, Fishkind explains, is to get fresh eyes on the problem.

You could say Burlington has a carbon conundrum. In 2007, a citywide inventory of greenhouse-gas emissions showed the city generated about 397,000 tons of carbon dioxide annually. At the time, the city's Carbon Action Plan called for a 20 percent reduction of 2007 emission levels by 2020 — or 1.5 percent annually.

But a 2010 inventory of emission levels revealed that Burlington had generated 423,542 tons of carbon dioxide — a 7 percent increase over 2007.

It wasn't because of Burlington Electric, which actually lowered its carbon footprint during that period. In the city's grant application, the mayor's assistant on special projects, Carina Driscoll, pointed out: "The reality is that many of the greenhouse-gas reduction efforts in the Climate Action Plan are moving forward in silos."

The IBM team promises to bring a big-picture view to the table. Two years ago, a Chilean city with a population of around 360,000 asked IBM for advice on improving sanitation and reducing its water consumption. When the team arrived on site, it discovered more pressing issues, including public safety, health, education and economic development. In the end, the Smarter Cities team recommended a variety of broader solutions — including one that could ultimately reduce the city's irrigation costs by as much as 60 percent.

As Fishkind put it, "The aperture definitely widened."

Similarly, in 2011 St. Louis asked IBM to examine its policing strategies. A nationwide drop in violent crime hadn't reached St. Louis and its reputation as "the most dangerous city in America" was driving away local residents and businesses.

The IBM team found the city's criminal justice system — police, prosecutors, courts, corrections, probation and parole — weren't sharing information effectively about their worst offenders, who were responsible for a disproportionate number of the crimes. The system lacked accountability and objective metrics on crime.

"Police, prosecutors, courts, probation and parole are all doing their job, and they may be doing it very well," St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay told *The Beacon* last year. "But they are not all answering to the same authority. They are doing the job in silos and not sharing information as much as they could."

> THE ONLY OBLIGATION WE'VE MADE IS TO **ENGAGE THEM WHILE THEY'RE HERE.**
>
> MIRO WEINBERGER

After IBM's team recommended focusing on certain "hot spots" of criminal activity and taking a "tough-love" approach to the most hardened criminals, the city was able to dramatically reduce the crime rate in some neighborhoods.

Glasgow, Scotland asked IBM to address the problem of "fuel poverty" — that is, residents who were spending more than 10 percent of their household income on fuel costs. After three weeks, the IBM team offered 60 different recommendations to increase "affordable warmth." One was a program that provides heating assistance to the city's elderly residents, paid for with proceeds from renewable energy projects.

Why did Weinberger's team ask for help on a huge problem like greenhouse-gas reduction instead of focusing the fix-it folks on the Moran Plant or Burlington Telecom? As the mayor explains, the problem had to have a data-management component. IBM excels in helping its cities process massive amounts of new information, glean relevant findings from it, then communicate it effectively to many stakeholders.

In Burlington's case, BED has nearly completed the rollout of its smart-grid technology, which includes meters that every 15 minutes report back to headquarters each user's energy consumption. BED's challenge: what to do with all that new data.

As Burlington prepares for IBM's arrival, the scope of the problem under consideration has already widened. Ken Nolan, manager of power resources at Burlington Electric, says the list of stakeholders has grown to include those involved in district heating, transportation, permitting and green-energy projects — in short, a more "global" perspective on Burlington's contribution to global warming.

Will Burlingtonians be receptive to IBM's recommendations?

"I think there's some wariness about how this will all go once IBM leaves," Nolan admits. "But I don't think we know yet. We really just have to let this play out."

Advice from Tucson, Ariz., which landed its own Smarter Cities grant: Be flexible and open to new ideas. Tucson asked IBM to help Tucson Water, a municipally owned water company, to conserve more water, identify leaks faster and reduce the energy cost of delivering water to an arid city of more than 700,000 people.

As BED has done with smart-grid technology, Tucson Water is upgrading its water meters to a system that will dramatically increase the amount of information it gathers on how, when and where water is consumed. The utility's challenge was to figure out how to manage all its new data.

"It was definitely a positive experience," reports Tucson Water spokesman Fernando Molina. "Even before it started, we were all really excited because we knew IBM had the top people in these fields to come and basically give us an outsiders' look of what we're doing."

In the end, IBM offered Tucson Water some technical and practical advice. Among their recommendations to the utility was to build a better website. One of its biggest problems was high call volume — on average, more than 2600 a day. IBM discovered a third of those calls were from customers who lacked basic information about their own water usage.

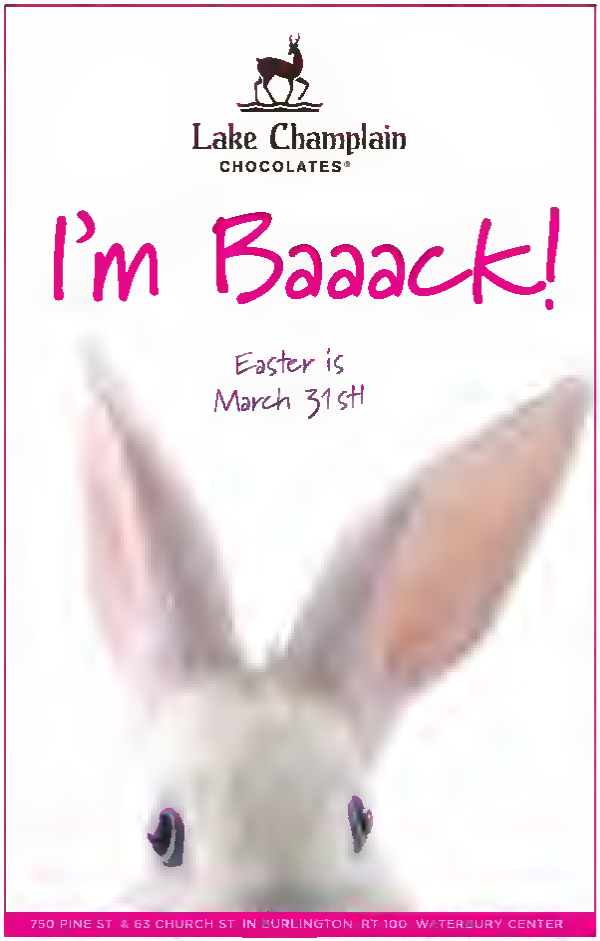
When they weren't geeking out, Molina says the IBM team members were "pretty much embedded in our community. We found out that when they went out to eat their meals, they would talk to everyone — their servers, the other people in the restaurant, the cooks."

Ruby Perry, an organizer for the climate action group 350 Vermont, didn't know the IBM team was coming to Burlington, but she hopes it will offer some "outside the box" recommendations for reducing fossil-fuel consumption, such as making streets more bike-friendly and four-day workweeks for city employees.

"There are all these ways of reducing emissions instantly without any output of money whatsoever," Perry says. "It just takes a great amount of creativity from employers."







# Burlington's DIY Literary Scene Is Thriving, With a New Journal and Books From Honeybee Press

BY MARGOT HARRISON

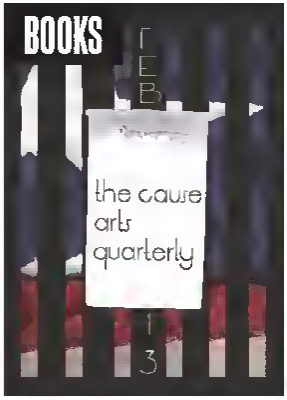
Last Saturday afternoon, **MARCUS IANNACONE**, a recent University of Vermont grad, stood on the stage of Burlington's **RADIO BEAN** reading a prose poem. An early twenties crowd buzzed softly around the bar.

"Do you want to listen to my poem?" Iannacone asked a newcomer, who smiled and nodded. "It's really meaningful." A few lines later, he broke off again to inquire, "Is anyone listening? Seriously, this could be something."

Even with a sympathetic crowd — which this was — writers can have a hard time wresting a few minutes of attention away from their peers' conversations, smartphones and other distractions. That's why some of them band together and start literary journals — yes, paper ones.

In the past few years, Burlington has seen the birth of at least two print periodicals with no academic affiliation: biannual *The Salon. A Journal of Poetry & Fiction*, and now *The Cause Arts Quarterly*, edited by **ERIC BIEBER**, **VINCENT MARKSOHN** and **TAYLOR MORSE**. *The Cause* celebrated its second issue on Saturday with the well-attended Radio Bean release party, featuring musical interludes by the **DUSTY NEUTRALS**.

Marksohn is an art major at UVM, and Morse and Bieber are English majors, but they stressed that a campus journal




is "not what it's about at all," Marksohn said. They accept submissions from the general public and have gotten *The Cause* onto the shelves of indie bookstores in Chicago, Northampton, Mass., and Bloomington, Ind.

The editors are serious about the "arts" part of their name. While the journal's interior is devoted primarily to words, both issues of *The Cause* come with a cover insert that holds a small pigment print, suitable for framing.

"I'm excited, as the artist," said **SAMANTHA DONNELLY**, who created a print included in the new issue using a strip of 120 film. "It's tangible, it's more of an object. I can't imagine a happier moment than when I can put my art into someone's hands."

Why start a literary journal at a time when even long-established ones are struggling for funding? After "exploring the boundaries of art and literature and book production" at UVM, the students "wanted to connect our efforts," said Morse, who was wearing a dandyish powder-blue sports coat. "We wanted to take control of something as our own."

At a university-affiliated journal such as UVM's *Vantage Point*, the editors said, they wouldn't be able to control as many aspects of the final product. "Everything is curated," said Marksohn, who likened the process to a gallery show he helped curate in his native New York City. Because the staff is so small, "we get to consciously and very systematically create the piece as a whole."

The opening editor's note sets the tone. In the February issue, it evokes images of violence: "We've reached the end again — a moment of stagnation between frames of wartime, a paused VCR that violently cycles through red, green, and blue hues anxiously waiting to resume."

Many of the pieces in *The Cause* are short and cryptic, with prose falling on the prose-poetry side. A few address the time-honored concerns of young writers: love lost and found, shitty jobs (At the reading, **HUNTER DAMBINO** got laughs with his prose poem "Vague Ramblings of a Cubicle Worker!") But in general, the authors go for a self-consciously elevated, even theatrical, tone or let the play of language take center stage. The strongest pieces in the February issue have incantatory rhythms and a complexity that sneaks up on you.

The first issue of *The Cause* bore the subtitle "Art and Action," reflecting not an explicit political orientation but an

*The Cause* may be purchased at thecause-actionart.com.

Benjamin Aleshire reads as part of the Painted Word Poetry Series on Wednesday, March 27, 6-7 p.m. at the Fleming Museum of Art, UVM, in Burlington. Free. Aleshire and Robert McKay read on Thursday, March 28, 7:30 p.m. at the Writers' Barn, 233 Falls Road in Shelburne. For more upcoming readings and book-purchasing information, see honeybeepress.org.

## *WALKING* MEDITATION

Theater professor **PETER HARRIGAN**, who is also chair of the St. Michaels College fine arts department, likes his students to occasionally dig deep staging works with social-justice resonance. This semester's selection fits the bill perfectly: *Dead Man Walking*. Originally a book written by Sister Helen Prejean — with the subhead *An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States* — the story of a nun and her relationship with a death-row inmate in Louisiana was made into a 1995 movie. Fans of that film, starring Sean Penn and Susan Sarandon, know that Tim Robbins wrote the screenplay, directed and produced it. They may not know that he also wrote a version for the stage — specifically for college students to perform.

So far, more than 250 colleges have licensed and produced the play," says Harrigan.

St. Mike's parlayed the provocative death-penalty topic into a three-part series: a talk by Sister Helen herself earlier this month, another talk, this past Tuesday, titled "Faculty Perspectives on the Death Penalty," and finally, the play


Evyn Whiteley and Zac Fiesner

COURTESY OF PETER HARRIGAN

itself. The project "is a great fit for St. Michaels College because we're so small; you can really have a campuswide discussion," Harrigan notes.

The students' first performance, next Tuesday, will be a pared-down version for an audience of inmates at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility in South Burlington. Eight of the 22 cast members got a preview of the venue during a visit on which they met prison staff, medical personnel and some of the female inmates, Harrigan says. Compared to an all-male, maximum-security prison, "it's more humane and holistic in general," he observes. "But it was still sobering."

PAMELA POLSTON

**'DEAD MAN WALKING'**

The St. Michaels College theater department presents public performances Thursday through Saturday, April 11 to 13, and 18 to 20, 7 p.m., at the SMC McCarthy Arts Center. Free. smctheatre.blogspot.com, smcvt.edu/dmwplay.org

interest in "bringing people into art," Marksohn said. Part of that involves personally selling the journal at events and distributing it through Burlington's **RA PRESS** (which regularly releases slim volumes of local poetry and prose).

One day, the editors would like to publish books under *The Cause* name. "We don't rule out anything," Marksohn said.

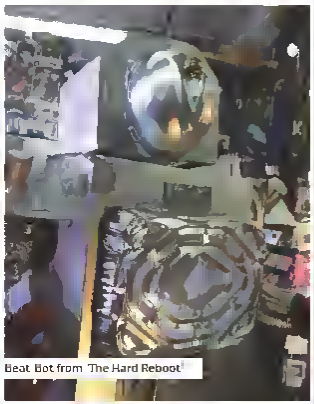
Speaking of book publishing, **HONEYBEE PRESS** — which publishes *The Salon* — is all over that. With the help of a **VERMONT ARTS COUNCIL** grant, the Burlington writers' collective kicked off its book series in 2011 with **EDIE RHOADS**' poetry collection *The Day Bat*.

Last year brought two more volumes of poetry, each with a striking letterpressed cover crafted from Egyptian cotton recycled by the Peace Project. *Dropped Apples* is the work of Honeybee editor and publisher **BENJAMIN ALESHIRE**. *Cities of Rain*, of associate editor **ROBERT MCKAY**. Both will read this Thursday at the **WRITERS BARN**, a space run by Shelburne's **WIND RIDGE PUBLISHING**.

McKay finds mystical dimensions in the back-to-the-land lifestyle, while Aleshire's poetry is both elegant and accessible, whether he's recalling travels in Central America or anarchist potlucks in Burlington. In "Records," an elegy to vinyl turns into a broader reflection on mortality and memory, as Aleshire describes a turntable, "its needle tracing / history's grooves, / pricking us in places / we didn't expect."

In an email, Aleshire writes, "I'm interested in shaking up the ... traditional monotone-mumbling of poetry reading." Here's to art in action. ⑦

## SHORT TAKES ON FILM: REPORT FROM THE GMFF FILM SLAM



COURTESY OF KOTHEDAY

Beat Bot from "The Hard Reboot"

The demise of 35-millimeter film was barely mentioned at this year's Academy Awards ceremony, but it was front and center at last weekend's **GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL** 48-Hour Film Slam. The 10 teams competing not only had to make a roughly seven-minute film in 48 hours, they also had to use an old-school film reel as a prop. (The other required elements were Montpelier's Dairy Creme as a location and the line "Is this your idea of a good time?")

On Sunday, when the 48 frenetic hours were over, the exhausted teams presented their films to a sold-out crowd at Montpelier's **PAVILION AUDITORIUM**.

One team went to town with its film reel and produced "The Replacement," directed by Sequana Skye. In which the slinky celluloid goes rogue and becomes a horror-movie monster — as revenge for its obsolescence, perhaps? The second-place winners made their reel the centerpiece of "Overexposure," a thriller about a missing boy with a fondness for filmmaking.

But the judges — who included this writer — gave the first prize of $1000 to the one-of-a-kind sports comedy from artist-filmmaker **DREW PEBERDY** of White River Junction and his teammates. "The Hard Reboot" concerns a tin-foil robot named Beat-Bot that's supposed to fight but would rather dance the night away. Wouldn't we all?

**MARGOT HARRISON**

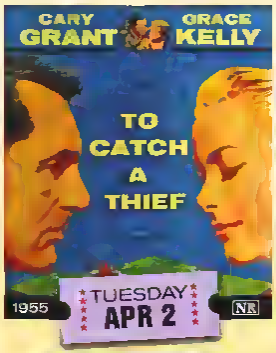
**GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL 48-HOUR FILM SLAM**
The entries screen again on Sunday, March 31, 5:30 p.m., in the Pavilion Auditorium in Montpelier. $7-9. gmffestival.org

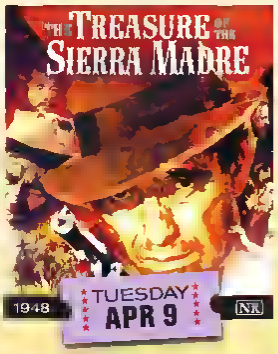
You can watch "The Hard Reboot" on YouTube (search under "Chico Eastridge").

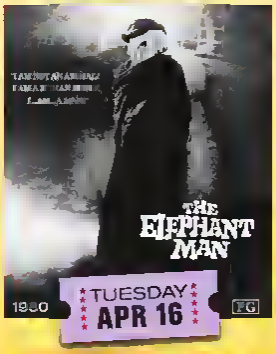

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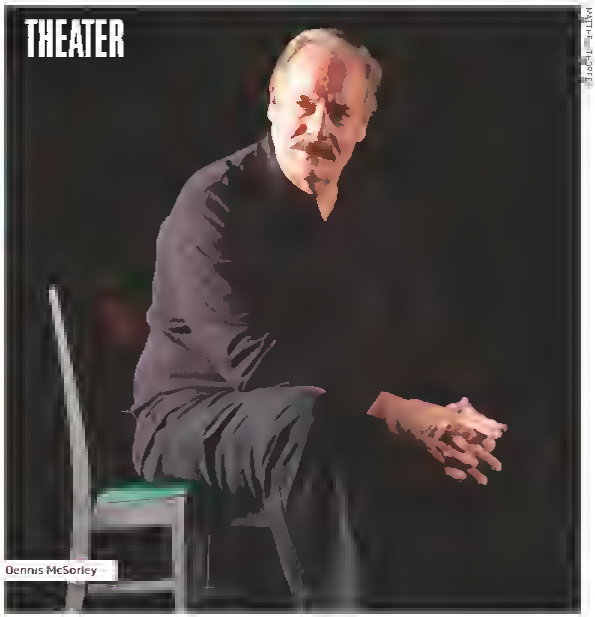

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# How a Burlington Actor Came Into His Own ... Stories

BY PAMELA POLSTON



Dennis McSorley

Burlington actor DENNIS MCSORLEY has played any number of tough guys in his theatrical career. A pungent Queens accent may have helped him get there, but he delivers the goods onstage. His avuncular, mustachioed physicality suits Everyman parts, as well. But in McSorley's one-man show, *Who Made Me?*, which he reprised last weekend at OFF CENTER FOR THE DRAMATIC ARTS, the spotlight shone not just on the actor but the man. That is, the piece he created and performed was autobiographical. And it was sweet, funny, engaging and revealing — up to a point.

If performing a solo show is an act of bravery, *Who Made Me?* might also be seen as a near-apotheosis for this late-blooming thespian, who moved to Vermont in 1994 "to escape the city," McSorley said in a postshow interview. And it's a case study in going for broke regardless of age — he's 66 — and opportunity. In Burlington's small theater scene, this erstwhile Irish Catholic schoolboy from New York City has come a long way. A guy with little training in acting (his background: "My mother used to take me to Broadway plays"), McSorley now lists on his resumé nearly 20 dramatic productions, a smattering of film and TV commercial roles and a 2006 nomination for Best Actor at the Brighton (UK) Fringe Festival. But in making a one-man show, McSorley takes charge of his own career. It's both a smart move and a creative challenge.

For this viewer, watching *Who Made Me?* whetted the appetite for the revelation of other, deeper layers of its subject.

*Who Made Me?* traces McSorley's life from birth through formative years in Catholic school through college and the beginning of adulthood and a teaching job. There are heaps of colorful anecdotes along the way — Catholic school alone provides a mother lode — and McSorley elicits both laughs and sympathy as he relates the coming-of-age agonies of the American male. His teens happened in an era when horny boys were rebuffed short of a girl's "first base." When the Beatles and Rolling Stones burst into his adolescence, McSorley jokes that his musical

allegiances were swayed by "Let's Spend the Night Together," not "I Want to Hold Your Hand."

Later, as he recounts his horror of the Vietnam War and his attempts to obtain conscientious-objector status, McSorley breaks the tension with this update: "Meanwhile, [girlfriend] Kathy and I had gone all the way ... in my Roy Rogers bedroom."

McSorley uses music to convey the period throughout his performance, particularly in the explosive '60s. But the tunes aren't on a soundtrack, he sings them. Snippets of "Abraham, Martin and John," for example, serve to convey the political upheaval and assassinations of the time. McSorley's singing voice is pleasant but uneven and lacks the Pavlovian power of the originals, so these musical interludes are less effective than they could be. In fact, *Who Made Me?* suffers ever so slightly from a consistent casualness of tone. McSorley the *actor* might better draw out the inherent drama in his own story.

But concerns about this, and a brief dip into sentimentality at the end, are minor quibbles with an otherwise well-stitched show. McSorley is a natural storyteller, with a gift of gab, good comedic timing and the ability to connect with his audience. He seems comfortable inside his own skin.

McSorley also has a good memory, he says, which is a boon onstage or off. Since he's telling his own story, McSorley can decide what to edit out, and he doesn't have to tell it exactly the same way each time. But this latitude doesn't mean he's cavalier about his performance. A show is still a show, and McSorley said he's honed it, soliciting the advice of such veteran thespians as **PAUL SCHNABEL**, a founder of Off Center.

"I've watched Dennis' show and gave him some feedback," Schnabel confirmed. "I've also just encouraged the shit out of him, because he's good. ... Dennis has a great improvisational style of delivering a story," Schnabel added. "It always surprises me how clever and funny he is."

On Friday night, McSorley performed for scarcely more than a dozen people. When he debuted *Who Made Me?* last fall, he said after last week's show, he drew "25 to 30 people each night." But rather than fretting the small turnout, he appeared humbled for the opportunity to practice his craft. "What'd you think?" he asked a knot of theatergoers who surrounded him after the show.

**DENNIS HAS A GREAT IMPROVISATIONAL STYLE OF DELIVERING A STORY.**
**PAUL SCHNABEL**

During the interview in Off Center's green room, McSorley picked up his story more or less where *Who Made Me?* left off. His teaching gig in a junior high school launched a 24-year career in NYC public schools, he said. Along the way, he earned a master's degree in special education and worked with disturbed kids. He married and had a son. Years later, he was divorced.

When he was eligible to retire, McSorley said, he left behind the broken marriage and fled to Vermont, escaping not just the city but personal demons, too. "You can say I've been in recovery," he allowed.

In Burlington, McSorley found work as a copywriter and at the HowardCenter. But within a year, his inner actor began to emerge. McSorley found encouragement from more seasoned thespians including **ADRIANO SHAPLIN**, Schnabel, **TRACEY GIROICH**, **JOHN ALEXANDER** and others, he recounted.

"I didn't know stage right from stage left," McSorley admitted. But over the years, "it's been really helpful to be a part of the Burlington [theater scene] and be with all kinds of people."

Lately, McSorley has been involved in a monthly storytelling competition called **EXTEMPO** in Montpelier. "It's a passion," he said of acting. "The storytelling thing has been a twinkle for me."

But he's getting pickier about roles. "I'm not still saying yes to everything," McSorley observed.

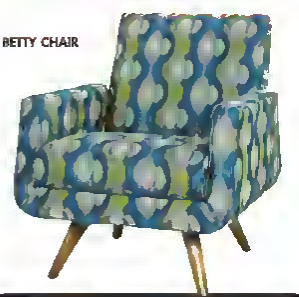
Will he develop more of his own stories? His fans may hope for a sequel to *Who Made Me?* Suggested title: *How I Made, and Remade, Myself.* ⑦


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ALAN SIGNORINO

**Dear Cecil**
**If Hollywood hes taught me anything its that working for a multinational corporation (or investigating one as a journalist) carries the risk you'll uncover damning information revealing a vast criminal conspiracy, which will lead to your attempted murder (if you're the mein character) or your successful murder (if you're the mein charecter's source/best friend/avuncular mentor). This got me wondering. Has this ever happened? Has e modern corporation ever conspired to kill someone who got too curious to keep the money rolling in?**
**Clayton, Boston**

As with many of the knotty questions of our times, we need to slice this into more digestible bits. Let's take it a step at a time.

**Q. HAVE CORPORATIONS EVER KILLED PEOPLE?**

A. Sure, happens all the time. That's why we have wrongful-death lawsuits.

**Q. I MEAN INTENTIONALLY KILLED PEOPLE.**

A. Define intentionally. There are lots of cases, most of them admittedly pretty ancient, in which big companies trying to bust a union hired armed... well, "thugs" is a prejudicial term. Armed individuals, which it then sent into labor strongholds to beat the crap out of... sorry, we need to be objective. Let's just say there have been multiple armed confrontations between workers and company agents that involved shots getting fired and people getting killed. For example, in the Homestead Steel Works strike of 1892, at least six workers and some lesser number of Pinkerton detectives in the pay of Andrew Carnegie were slain during gun battles that broke out over an attempt to bring in strikebreakers.

**Q. WHO SHOT FIRST?**

A. That remains in dispute. The same could be said of a lot of the facts surrounding labor-management clashes in the old days.

**Q. THIS ISN'T REALLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND ANYWAY. WHAT ABOUT PREMEDITATED MURDER OF A SPECIFICALLY TARGETED INDIVIDUAL RATHER THAN SOME WAGE SLAVE WHO STRAYED INTO THE LINE OF FIRE?**

A. Well, there's the well-known case of nuclear plant worker Karen Silkwood. A union activist at a Kerr-McGee facility that made plutonium pellets for reactor fuel rods, she testified before the Atomic Energy Commission in 1974 about alleged safety problems at her plant. Several months later she was found to be dangerously contaminated with plutonium. In November Silkwood was driving to a meeting with a *New York Times* reporter to show him evidence of unsafe practices when her car crashed into a culvert and she was killed. Authorities said she'd fallen asleep at the wheel. Her family said there was evidence she'd been run off the road, but such allegations have never been proven.

**Q. SO WE HAVE NO UNDISPUTED CASES OF A CORPORATION CONSPIRING TO ASSASSINATE SOMEONE?**

A. Undisputed, no. However, we have many instances of foreign subsidiaries of North American companies being mixed up in killings by local goons, and in each the chief question is how far up the chain of command responsibility goes. Examples.

- As I reported in 2005, union leader Isidro Gil was shot to death in 1996 outside the main gate of a Coca-Cola plant in Colombia, allegedly by paramilitaries at the behest of the plant manager. Coke spokespeople denied that either the company's Atlanta HQ or its Columbia subsidiary had advance warning of the killing, and a federal judge threw out charges against Coke and its subsidiary on the grounds that neither had control of the local plant. The judge didn't address the claim that an agent of an independent Coke licensee had had a man killed.
- Drummond, an Alabama-based mining company, was accused in 2002 of having hired Colombian paramilitaries to torture and kill three union leaders. In 2007 an American jury found Drummond not liable for the killings, but earlier this year in Bogota a Drummond contractor was convicted of two of the murders, and another suit against the company is currently proceeding through U.S. courts.
- Canadian firm Talisman Energy was sued in 2001 by the Presbyterian Church of the Sudan for its role in promoting civil war in that country. This started with the use of paid government troops to guard Talisman's oil fields, then morphed into the military's using the company's roads and airstrips to launch attacks against rebels and civilians nearby. The case was dismissed for lack of evidence showing Talisman intended to harm the southern Sudanese.
- The closest to an admission of lethal wrongdoing in recent years is the case of *Wiwa et al v. Royal Dutch Petroleum et al* concerning the oil company's culpability in (among other numerous human-rights abuses) the death of Nigerian activist Ken Saro-Wiwa, who was executed by his country's military in 1995 after protesting Shell's environmental practices. In 2009, just days before the trial was scheduled to start in New York, Shell settled for $15.5 million. The plaintiffs called it a victory, Shell preferred to characterize it as a humanitarian gesture. All I know is that in the previous year Shell had racked up net gains of $26 billion, meaning $15.5 million represented the loss of five hours' profit.

**Is there something you need to get straight?** Cecil Adams can deliver the Straight Dope on any topic. Write Cecil Adams at the Chicago Reader, 11 E. Illinois, Chicago, IL 60611, or **cecil@chireader.com**.

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# WHISKEY TANGO FOXTROT

*We just had to ask ..*

## Why are barns allowed to fall into disrepair yet are rarely torn down?

BY KEN PICARD



A round barn on Route 7 in Ferrisburgh

COURTESY OF THE VERMONT DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

In this profoundly secular state, one of the few objects to achieve sacred-cow status is the barn. Whether they're round or rectangular, farmhouse red or weather-beaten gray, barns have long been potent symbols of Vermont's rich agricultural heritage. They show up on countless postcards, calendars, magazine covers and other tourist memorabilia.

While a smattering of historic barns around the state are lovingly preserved — think the West Monitor Barn in Richmond and the Coach and Farm barns at Shelburne Farms — many older barns are looking long in the tooth. More than a few barely still qualify as freestanding structures.

However, unlike houses, churches and commercial buildings, which might be renovated multiple times, a barn is commonly left to the inevitable process of entropy — until a fire, snowstorm or stiff gust of wind reduces it to ashes or a pile of lumber.

Considering our cultural fixation on barns, it's strange that no state law prevents them from being torn down or mandates their upkeep should the owner let them stand indefinitely. Unless a barn stands precariously close to a road and poses an imminent safety hazard, these agrarian temples are free to stand or fall on their own terms. WTF?

One obvious reason for the laissez-faire attitude is practicality: so many barns, so few resources to maintain them.

Until last week, Josh Phillips was director of the Vermont Barn Census, a federally funded project run through the National Park Service's Preserve America grant program. Created in 2008, the Vermont Barn Census has been drawing on the help of historic preservationists and volunteers to compile data on barns and other agricultural structures throughout the state.

Phillips, a native Vermonter, could be considered the state's resident expert on barns, and he admits to a "particular enthusiasm" for round and polygonal models.

"My family has a farm in Benson, and I spent all kinds of time there when I was a kid," he says. "Those barns are the site of some of my richest childhood memories."

Since 2011, Phillips has visited about 1300 Vermont barns, though he admits he checked out most via "windshield survey" rather than actually getting inside to inspect their posts and beams or climbing up to their haymows.

What do we know about Vermont's barns? To date, Phillips' program has surveyed about 3700 agricultural structures in Vermont. That's just a fraction of the state's estimated 12,000 to 15,000 farm structures, of which about 80 percent are barns. The rest, according to Phillips, fall into one of 50 categories of agricultural outbuildings that also include granaries, carriage houses, milking parlors and the like.

Generally, a barn must be at least 50 years old to qualify for the National Register of Historic Places. Barns that old become eligible to receive grants of up to $15,000 for preservation. But, as Phillips points out, it's a competitive process, and funds aren't doled out lightly.

Among the factors considered: Is the barn located on a working farm? How's its structural integrity? Would a renovation project affect the long-term viability of the farm itself? Is the barn a unique or outstanding example of a certain style of architecture or construction?

According to Phillips, the oldest barn in Vermont on which he can put a definitive date was built in Cornwall in 1787.

"But," he cautions, "I am positive there are some [older ones] in southern Vermont that I just don't know about for sure yet." For example, a barn in Manchester has been tentatively dated to 1760.

What's the biggest killer of barns? While people tend to notice the dramatic demises, such as razing by a large fire or heavy snow load, Phillips says it's far more common for barns to die from slow, steady decay. Water gets in, the roof and foundation fail, and ultimately the entire structure collapses.

But why are they *allowed* to decay?

"As much as anything else, lack of purpose, as with people, is probably [barns'] greatest enemy," Phillips says. "If it's not being used for anything it becomes pretty difficult for most barn owners to justify the cost associated with [the barn's] maintenance."

Or demolition. Because decrepit barns rarely have any residual economic value but also aren't in anyone's way, Phillips says, "they tend to just sit there and deteriorate."

As a consequence, Vermont loses quite a few barns each year. Although Phillips can't put a definite number on it, he estimates that more than 100 barns disappear annually.

For people who want to see some cool ones before they're gone, Phillips suggests driving through Tunbridge, Stratford, East Montpelier and Morrisville. The last, he notes, probably has more barns than any other town in Vermont.

At least for now. ⑦

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# Leaning In Isn't the Point



*Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead* — the best selling book a with tie-in training campaign and materials and corporate-sponsorship synergies — has been branded the 21st-century reboot of feminism. From the cover of *Time* magazine to the far reaches of the blogosphere, its author, Facebook chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg, has been nominated (and just as often voted down) as the next Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

What's *Lean In*'s big idea? To bring equality to the workplace, women need to overcome the "ambition gap." Don't hang back, ladies, says Sandberg. Face your fears. Don't slink onto the Mommy Track or retreat to stay-at-home motherhood. Grab a seat at the conference table and speak up. Insist that your husband take half the responsibility at home. In short, don't be a wuss. (But make sure you're smiling while doing all this.)

This, as the joke goes, is the revolution? Sandberg's advice reminds me of the motto of the founder of the Quaker girls' camp I went to in the '60s: "Be ladylike but firm."

I won't reiterate all the criticisms of the book. Mainly, they come from feminists who feel that a person who was a protégée of economist/former secretary of the treasury Larry Summers, who counts Arianna Huffington and Oprah Winfrey as close friends, and who is worth hundreds of millions of dollars is almost a different species from the rest of us female *Homo sapiens*. A heterosexual white woman married to the CEO of SurveyMonkey, a mother for whom a work-family crisis is the discovery, while on the eBay corporate jet, that her daughter has head lice, has little to say to the single mom supermarket cashier. Most women need daycare, unions and antidiscrimination laws more than exhortations to negotiate for better stock options in their compensation packages.

All true, but the critics have it only partly right.

The problem isn't that women are acting like wusses. And it's not just what Sandberg doesn't mention much: that women dominate the lowest-paid, least-protected sectors, such as retail and home health care. It's that virtually *all* workers, regardless of gender, have come to adopt the most mewling of feminine traits.

What neoliberal economists call labor-market "flexibility" (read: union busting and regulation relaxing) has produced a worker who feels that she — or he — has to eat any shitty wages or conditions dished out and thank the boss for the lovely meal.

"Flexibility doesn't just manifest itself in global economic trends. It has now become a central part of the office worker's performance," writes Oxford fellow Madeleine Schwartz in a smart piece in *Dissent*, a politics and culture quarterly. "The behavioral characteristics demanded by an uncertain office are ones traditionally associated with women — flexibility, submission, gratitude."

Schwartz likens this ethos to the popular view of housework before feminism. Not only were you waxing the kitchen floors and wiping the babies' butts, you were happy and fulfilled doing it!

Workers can hardly be blamed for what looks like voluntary abjection. The corporation's flexibility creates what Guy Standing, a University of London professor of development studies, calls growing "precarity" for workers globally. And an economy of part timers, freelancers, independent contractors, unpaid interns and perma-temps is not one that rewards the individual boldness Sandberg prescribes.

On *Lean In*'s publication date earlier this month, I happened to receive a far more enlightening book in which stories of lost jobs, homes and savings painfully illustrate the ways this economy erodes personal self-respect and hope. In *Down the Up Escalator: How the 99 Percent Live in the Great Recession*, author Barbara Garson meets, among others, a father and son in Evansville, Ind., where Whirlpool is laying off everyone. The father has worked for a big box store for 24 years, only to find his loyalty rewarded with 13-hour night shifts — more work at effectively lower wages. His son is making do with on-again off-again telemarketing gigs.

The father finds solace in religion and secretly blames himself for the slide of his fortunes. The son adapts to his narrowing prospects with a "hippie ethic" that eschews status and money. Still, he holds up as the pinnacle of success his "brilliant" friend, who has held a machine-shop job for two years and is earning enough to pay the rent and buy a car and insurance. Both men have hewed their dreams to what they think they can get.

If working people are not "leaning in," it's because they're so far out on the

precipice, they fear moving a muscle will propel them over the edge.

The good news is that, far from the C-suite — in, say, Vermont's daycare centers, New York's fast-food joints and Walmarts across the country — people who wouldn't stand a chance standing up for themselves alone are leaning not exactly *in* but rather *on* each other. In fact, some find that making a lot of Sandbergian personal ambitious noise — the kind of noise that is associated with masculine ways of getting ahead — is precisely what can cripple progress for the group and thus for the individuals in it.

In a heartrending piece also published recently in *Dissent*, the pseudonymous writer "JOMO" recounts a union-organizing drive at an unnamed nursing home by certified nursing assistants. CNAs are the people who heft, feed and change the diapers of the institutionalized old and disabled. JOMO describes the mutual aid of these workers — almost exclusively immigrant women of color — as they struggle to care patiently and empathically for the residents while maintaining their own dignity and health against stress, monotony and racist insult. They earn about $10 an hour.

When a new supervisor changes staffing ratios in a way that gives the CNAs more clients to care for in the same amount of time, JOMO and her coworkers have had enough. They petition against the speedup, and are rebuffed. "If you form a union," they're told, "we will have no choice but to fire all of you."

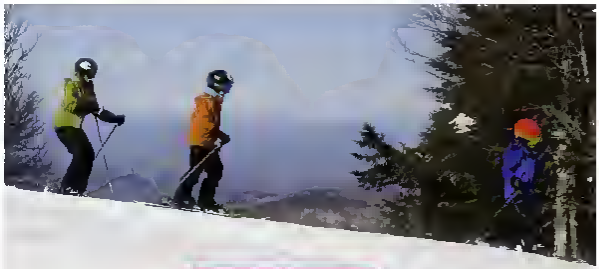
The CNAs complain to the National Labor Relations Board and seek the help of the Industrial Workers of the World. According to JOMO, management responds by spreading rumors about her, fomenting racially tinged resentments and rewarding snitches with raises and better shifts. Division conquers. The campaign fails.

**THE PROBLEM ISN'T THAT WOMEN ARE ACTING LIKE WUSSES. IT'S THAT VIRTUALLY ALL WORKERS, REGARDLESS OF GENDER, HAVE BEEN ADOPTING THE MOST MEWLING OF FEMININE TRAITS.**

One of the lessons JOMO gleans from the failure is that "I personally became too obvious as a leader and target." The collective voice, she realizes, would have been stronger in chorus than represented by a solo aria, no matter how impassioned or articulate. But she believes the chorus hasn't been silenced — because the prize is too compelling: justice for the caregivers and, equally important, more bearable lives and deaths for the elderly residents.

It's not enough for women to advance their careers. There's no evidence of what *Lean In* suggests — that women at the top improve things for women, or anyone, at the bottom. The nursing-home supervisor was a woman. And it's not enough just to lean in. It matters what and whom you're leaning toward.

Poli Psy is a twice-monthly column by Judith Levine. Got a comment on this story? Contact levine@sevendaysvt.com.

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# Are You There, GOD? It's Me, Vermont



# Finding religion in America's most godless state

BY *SEVEN DAYS* STAFF

When it comes to God, Vermont's just not that into Him. Or Her. Our ranking as America's least religious state was reaffirmed by a Gallup poll in February that indicated only 23 percent of Vermonters consider religion an important part of their daily lives and attend religious services every, or almost every, week. Among the 50 states, only New Hampshire is as godless.

This year's town meeting in Franklin was the second without an opening prayer, the result of a lawsuit by resident Marilyn Hackett and the American Civil Liberties Union, who objected to voting on the town budget in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. In light of that case, the Vermont League of Cities and Towns this year urged other town meetings to drop opening prayers.

And yet, there are signs of religion everywhere in Vermont, starting with the ubiquitous and iconic white church steeples across the state's landscape. And while town meetings might steer clear of God, House and Senate sessions in Montpelier routinely open with invocations by religious leaders.

Vermont is also the birthplace of Mormon prophet Joseph Smith (Sharon, in 1805), the home of St. Anne's Shrine in Isle LaMotte, the former home of the Twelve Tribes sect in Island Pond, and has a thriving — and rapidly expanding — Christian radio chain called The Light.

Many Vermonters have gone to the mat to protect their right to worship how they please. Remember Shawn Byrne, the West Rutland man who sued the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles after it said he couldn't have vanity plates that read, "THE REV" and "PSALM48"? He fought that case to federal appeals court and won.

So how godless are we, really? And what gods do Vermonters worship? According to the Association of Religious Data Archives at Pennsylvania State University, the largest religious group in Vermont, as of 2010, was Catholics (128,293), followed by mainline Protestants (48,029) and evangelical Protestants (22,630). But in smaller numbers, Vermont is home to practicing Mormons, Jews, Christian Scientists, Buddhists, Baha'is, Jehovah's Witnesses, Hindus, Muslims, Mennonites and Unitarians. And, of course, pagans.

For this week's cover story, *Seven Days* sent its staff to places of worship large and small, public and private, to meet the faithful and discover the religious pulse of Vermont. Our survey is not intended to be, uh, gospel, but rather a sampling of various ways Vermonters commune with the Great Mystery. Oh, and we figured Catholics got more than their fair share of attention over the past few weeks — lookin' at you, Pope Francis — so none of us chose to go to mass.

Instead, we meditated with Buddhists, prayed with Muslims, waved palms with evangelicals, sang with Mennonites and admired some power animals. We ate snacks with Greek Orthodox, celebrated Shabbat with Jews and pondered worldly writings with UUs. Maybe most of us avoid joining a "team," but spirit is clearly moving in Vermont.

**ANDY BROMAGE**

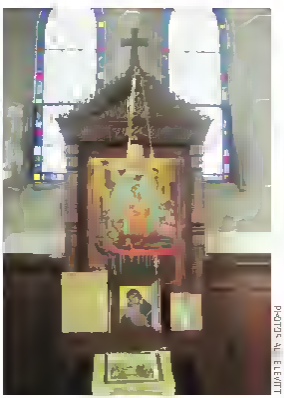
## Greek Orthodox

With sacraments called "mysteries," incense meant to represent sweet prayers rising to God and nearly half a year spent fasting in some form, it's no wonder the Eastern Orthodox Church can seem exotic even to other Christians.

But visitors might be disappointed by the utter lack of mystery during a service at the Dormition of the Mother of God Greek Orthodox Church on South Willard Street in Burlington. In many ways, the church of about 90 parishioners resembles an exceptionally casual, friendly Roman Catholic Church. Families with small children wandered in 15 and even 45 minutes late to the 10 a.m. Sunday service. Father Robert Athas addressed kids directly with a quiz about his vestments and a brief talk about the rituals of bringing Holy Communion to the sick.

The first difference a visitor might notice is that Athas does nearly every part of the service twice. The choir, too, sings most of its material in English, then in Greek. Much of the original liturgy, said Athas, dates to about 350 AD, a time when Christians were still persecuted and hiding their rituals. Other music is more recent, with additions to the mostly sung-through ceremony still being written today.





PHOTOS: MICHAEL TOWN

Many of the parishioners were quiet, abiding by Athas' frequent address of "let us be attentive!" A few, mostly older voices rose from the back of the church, creakily answering the priest's call-and-response in both languages.

Many of them have been part of the flock from the beginning. Burlington radiologist John Tampas was the church's first president and was elected to the position again in 2011. In the late 1950s, sermons at 107 Pine Street by a visiting Montréal-based priest inspired the beginnings of a Greek Orthodox congregation.

"It reached the point that the bishop based in Boston was a little embarrassed that we were the only state in the country that didn't have a parish," recalled Tampas. "And we were part of his diocese."

Before long, the community moved into its current location — a former Episcopal church — painted icons with a heavenly gold background over the altar, and began to welcome members who traced their origins beyond Greece. Today, parish members refer to themselves as "pan-Orthodox." Several older Russian men took up a table together when members gathered after the service for snacks. Other members hail from Bulgaria, Moldova and Bosnia.

What unites them is a belief in living life according to the Holy Spirit. "It's a very good, centered way of living," said Athas. Guidance is sought through prayer.

Traditionally, the religion's monasticism involved long stretches of silence and frequent abstention from various foods and other worldly pleasures. But in a family parish such as the Dormition church, the focus is not only on maintaining a relationship with the Holy Spirit but also fellow humans.

Greek food festivals several times a year allow community outreach in a delicious way. A famous face from the community, Nectar Rorris, founder of Nectar's, is one of the members serving up fare including souvlaki, gyros and Greek pastries. As Athas put it: "We provide food for the soul." But for this parish, which hosts its next festival this Saturday, an earthly taste or two doesn't seem to hurt.

**ALICE LEVITT**

ARE YOU THERE GOD? » P.30

## Paganism

Holly Thompson apologized for having only a lawn chair to offer her visitor, she had just moved into her Essex apartment and wasn't settled in yet. But Thompson *had* erected her five altars, which she uses daily in her pagan worship.

Though reliable numbers are unavailable, Vermont is believed to be home to scores of pagan practitioners, groups and covens. Nationally, 682,000 people called themselves pagans in the 2008 ARDA survey. Paganism refers to a diversity of pre-Christian, polytheistic folk traditions and indigenous customs. Some groups, such as the Green Mountain Druid Order, based in Worcester, have been around for years. Others, like Thompson's small worship group in Randolph, are newer incarnations with more fluid memberships.

Thompson, 27, practices "eclectic paganism," a personalized blend of beliefs and practices she draws from Wicca, shamanism and ancient Egyptian tradition.

In her bedroom stands her "working altar." On it sits a raccoon tail — representing one of Thompson's "power animals" — a bird feather, pentagram and Egyptian divination tool. A stuffed crow stands watch on a windowsill.

Thompson has also decorated her body with animistic imagery. She sports tattoos of a raccoon, bat, wolf and a scarab.

Growing up in Morrisville, Thompson was raised nominally Christian. Then, a high school friend introduced her to Wicca.

"She told me all about it, and it took me about a day to turn into a Wiccan," Thompson recalled. "I never looked back."





PHOTOS: COURTESY OF HOLLY THOMPSON

**People, plants, animals — it's all the same energy.** It just manifests itself in different ways.

**HOLLY THOMPSON**

Thompson said she was attracted to paganism's Earth-based philosophy, which emphasizes nature's diametric forces: light/dark, good/evil, yin/yang. She believes in reincarnation and "shamanistic journeying," or traveling to other dimensions via trance.

"I worship many gods and goddesses, but I feel they are all part of one life force," she explained. "People, plants, animals — it's all the same energy. It just manifests itself in different ways."

Thompson mainly worships privately, through prayers and spells. Many of these she dedicates to Macha (pronounced "Maxa"), a Celtic warrior goddess.

"I pretty much chose her because she's the opposite of me," Thompson said, referring to her deity's assertive and warlike persona. 'She's helping me balance myself. That's the goal of many pagans, to achieve balance.'

Other times, Thompson worships with her Randolph group, which meets to celebrate the equinoxes and Sabbats — eight pagan festivals that commemorate seasonal changes. Several weeks ago, they gathered for Imbolc Sabbat (or Candlemas), a Celtic light festival that heralds the approach of spring.

As pagans consider nature their "church," many, like Thompson, worship outdoors. Typically, her group begins by "opening the circle," or cleansing the area of negative energy to create a sacred space. Then, they'll call upon the elements and summon various gods or goddesses with whom they wish to commune. They may honor their spirit animals by dressing like them and dancing, or drum and chant to induce a trance. Later, they'll light candles, offer thanks and close the circle.

Thompson said that most Vermonters, including her own family, accept her beliefs. Since moving to Essex, she's sought out like-minded believers who want to "figure themselves out spiritually."

That's my goal in life," said Thompson, who works at Wendy's in Essex. "If I had the option, I'd be a full-time pagan priestess. But I still need food and money."

**KEN PICARO**

## Unitarian Universalist Society

Fewer Americans are going to church every Sunday — but apparently the congregation at the Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society didn't get the memo. Their new church in Middlebury was comfortably full on a recent Sunday morning, packed with young families, gray-haired congregants, and a choir and string band.

"You hear a lot of talk these days about the nation becoming less religious and Vermont being the least religious state in the nation,' acknowledged Rev. Barnaby Feder during his homily that week. "But the questions with which religion has always wrestled persist. Religion that doesn't ask you to check your brain at the door will remain vital."

Sure enough, at that morning's service, the congregation looked on as seven worshipers officially signed up as church members, joining a community of roughly 175 adults. "I don't think membership has ever been higher than this," said Feder, a former *New York Times* reporter who came on board as Middlebury's minister last August, after the service.

Vermont is home to 22 UU congregations, counting among their ranks roughly 1800 members. The church pulls from two distinct threads of religious history: the Unitarians, who rejected the idea of a holy trinity and believed in the inherent goodness of humanity, and the Universalists, who cherished a central belief in the idea that all people will eventually find salvation. Summed up by one 19th-century preacher: "The Universalist ... believes that God is too good to damn us forever; and you Unitarians believe that you are too good to be damned."

Both religions have European roots dating back centuries, but took hold in the United States in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The two branches merged in 1961. UUs pride themselves on being early supporters of civil, women's and gay rights, as well as ecological and social justice. Topping the list of the UUs' seven guiding principles is an affirmation of the 'inherent worth and dignity of every person."






PHOTOS: COURTESY OF KATHRYN FLAGG

UU services vary by congregation. Worship in Middlebury on a recent Sunday kicked off with a reading from Walt Whitman and the lighting of the "flaming chalice," the most widely used symbol of Unitarian Universalism. The congregation launched into a song adapted from a Ralph Waldo Emerson poem, and later heard brief readings from the Hindu text the Bhagavad Gita and C.S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity*.

In fact, there were precious few mentions of God throughout the service. "God talk" was a touchy subject for decades among some UU congregations. Twenty years ago, Feder said, the majority of people flocking to UU churches were those who'd been "wounded" in some way by their experience with traditional religion. Today, roughly half of congregants come from other faith backgrounds, but just as many come without any religious upbringing at all.

Lest you think this a religious free-for-all, Feder cautioned that just because the UU faith attracts members who believe "no one has a monopoly on the truth," that's not a free pass for ignoring difficult questions of faith.

"The faith community is ultimately not about what you believe but the process of asking the kind of questions that allow you to believe what you can," said Feder. "People who come here recognize that everybody holds something sacred, and they want to align their lives with the sacredness in so far as they understand it. And it's hard to get there on your own."

**KATHRYN FLAGG**

## Islam

You probably won't find a more racially diverse gathering in Vermont than at the weekly Islamic congregational prayer service in Colchester. More than 100 men — many with brown or black skin and a few with white — kneeled and stood shoulder to shoulder in a room roughly one-third the size of Burlington City Hall's Contois Auditorium. An unknown number of women assembled separately at the same time — 1 p.m. on Friday — in an upstairs space that cannot be seen from below.

The location is the Islamic Society of Vermont's mosque in one of the many century-old brick buildings in Fort Ethan Allen. It's the only holy place of its kind in a state that's home to a growing population of Muslims, currently estimated at about 4,000.

Many have come to Vermont as refugees from Sudan, Somalia, Iraq and Bosnia, explained Islam Hassan, the imam, or religious leader, of the state's Islamic Society.

Though born and raised in Egypt, the bushy-bearded Hassan has lived in the United States long enough to have acquired an American accent. He's served as the local imam for the past two years, and prior to that held the same post at a mosque in Minnesota. His wife still lives there, "so it's a bit hard for me to be in Vermont," he said after leading last week's 45-minute Jumu'ah (Friday prayer session).


Islam Hassan

PHOTOS: KEVIN J. KELLEY

The faithful are mandated to attend the prayer service on the Islamic holy day in the same way that Catholics are required to attend Mass on Sunday. Muslims are actually obligated to pray five times a day, every day, in keeping with one of their religion's "five pillars." These basic acts of Islam also include a proclamation of faith, almsgiving, daytime fasting during the lunar month of Ramadan, and the hajj, or pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia, that is supposed to be undertaken at least once during a Muslim's lifetime.




As 1 p.m. approached last Friday, a steady stream of men of various ages made their way into the mosque after removing their shoes in a mudroom. Most sat cross-legged in silence on the thick rug that covers the prayer space. Some whispered greetings of "As-salamu alaykam" ("Peace be with you") as they shook hands with friends. A few young boys rolled around on the floor or wiggled on their fathers' laps.

The service began promptly with a man chanting melodiously in Arabic through a microphone as he leaned into a semicircular niche carved into a wall facing east — toward Mecca. Hassan then rose to lead prayers and deliver a sermon, with sections spoken first in Arabic and then in English.

"If I said the whole thing in Arabic, hardly anyone could understand me," he said afterward, seated in an office decorated with posters of the Kaaba, the cuboid building in Mecca that ranks as one of Islam's most sacred sites.

In his sermon, Hassan emphasized the importance of mercy in Islam, which extends, he said, "even to the animals." He told a story contrasting the behavior of "an Israeli prostitute," who saved a dying dog by giving it water, with that of a "devout [Muslim] woman" who allowed her pet cat to starve to death. God was so pleased with the (presumably Jewish) woman who had acted mercifully that she was forgiven her sins while the cruel Muslim woman was duly punished, Hassan told the gathering.

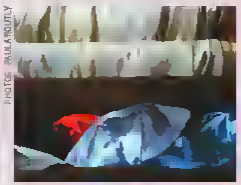
"My role is to reconcile conflicts among the people," he said later. "I try to supply them with what is missing. I help them fill gaps in their lives."

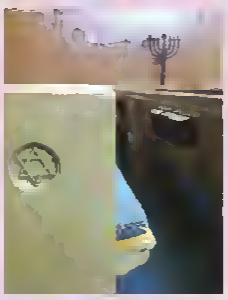
KEVIN J. KELLEY

## Judaism

The first Jews were starting to sing — mournful, minor-key prayers in Hebrew — when Judy Hershberg delivered the bad news in the synagogue coatroom. "You know you can't take notes in there," she said, eyeing my iPhone and clipboard. "No photos, either. I shouldn't even be carrying this handbag."

Shabbat is Hebrew for Sabbath, and, like Christians, Jews embrace it as part of God's seven-day Creation. But for Jews, the "day of rest" is Saturday — not Sunday — and the "left-leaning Conservative" ones at Burlington's Ohavi Zedek interpret that as a divine directive. Jewish law specifies 39 activities that are prohibited on the work-free Sabbath. Along with "gathering" and "igniting a fire" are writing and erasing. Damn.


PHOTOS: PAULA ROUTLY



"I guess you'll just have to remember the whole thing," Hershberg suggested cheerfully. Donning a colorful prayer shawl to match her yarmulke, she led me into the brightly lit synagogue affectionately known as OZ.

To the uninitiated, the room itself doesn't look all that different from a church. It's got pews and prayer books, stained glass and an organ. But the synagogue's wooden walls are unadorned, and natural light streams in from the etched clerestory windows all around the room. On the Jewish equivalent of the altar is the Holy Ark, a carved cabinet that contains at least one parchment scroll of the Five Books of Moses. The Torah is at the center of every Shabbat synagogue service.

Hershberg, an OZ trustee, confessed she almost never gets there at nine o'clock, when the preliminary prayers start. Fewer than a dozen, mostly older congregants were gathered when Rabbi Joshua Chasan started calling out page numbers of the prayer book, which reads from back to front. I read the English translations of the Hebrew as Assistant Rabbi Jan Salzman sang the latter as cantor, a job that Orthodox Jews only bestow upon men. In her strong alto, Salzman performed the a cappella chants with remarkable rhythmic variation and haunting "tropes" — sometimes solo, sometimes with the congregation.

More people trickled in the open door for the Schema, the central affirmation of the Jewish faith, and the Amidah — all about God and Moses and the Israelites.

Good thing, because the Torah rituals require congregant participation, from extricating the three-foot scroll from its velvet sheath and parading it around the room to actually deciphering its ancient lettering. Every week, synagogues all over the world read one prescribed selection from the Torah. On this Saturday before Passover, the story from Leviticus 8 involved Moses, Aaron, his sons, a bull and two rams — and did not end well for the animals.

What came after, though, was uniquely Burlington: a guest sermon by Rev. Peter Cook from the First Congregational Church — part of a local interfaith pulpit exchange. The minister, who had trouble keeping his yarmulke on, built his remarks around a Deuteronomy passage that appears at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. Cook praised Chasan for speaking out against discrimination and intolerance in Vermont. OZ's outspoken rabbi is retiring in 2016.

As the service drew to a close, things got more practical. Chasan read a sick list — to which congregants called out additional names — and the upcoming week's yahrzeits, or death anniversaries. He also suggested that anyone without a seder dinner invite, or with an extra place at a Passover table, should call the office early Monday — presumably so a little matchmaking could be done.

Hershberg said she likes the Shabbat service because it makes her feel connected to Jews all over the world. As an outsider, I was struck by how it holds a local community together.

PAULA ROUTLY

ARE YOU THERE GOD? » P.32

## Mennonite

"The media is in love with Pope Francis," said pastor Gwen Groff from behind a small pulpit — it's really more like a music stand — addressing the small group seated before her. For 13 years, Groff has served as the minister at the Bethany Mennonite Church, a parish of about 40 members nestled in the riverside town of Bridgewater Corners, Vt., near Killington. Musing on the new Catholic leader, while timely, initially seemed an odd choice to begin a Palm Sunday sermon. Mennonites are Protestants and occupy a branch of Christianity deliberately far removed from Catholicism. But Groff is enamored with Francis' now-famous reticence about papal luxuries — riding the bus instead of taking the Popemobile, for example — and sees a lesson for her congregation.

"We admire those with great power who set it aside," she said.

It was an apt lesson for Palm Sunday, a day that celebrates Jesus' "triumphal" entry into Jerusalem days before the Last Supper. According to the Gospel, the King of Kings arrived in the city atop a lowly donkey, greeted by believers who laid palm leaves in his path. While Easter Sunday, which celebrates Christ's resurrection, is the holiest day on the Christian calendar, Palm Sunday is perhaps more illustrative of Mennonite faith, which places paramount importance on humility.

The Bethany Mennonite Church, built in the 1950s by a small group of believers from Pennsylvania, is spare, a handmade photo collage is one of few adornments on its wood-paneled walls. Instead of large gold crosses, you have to look hard to find a crucifix here — it's beside



**We admire those with great power** who set it aside.

**GWEN GROFF**

a candle on a table near the apse, but it's small, wooden and obscured by a large vase of wildflowers. There is a portrait of Jesus, but even he occupies an inconspicuous place, hanging alone on a far wall.

"Some people think even *that's* too much," Groff later said of the familiar blue-eyed likeness of JC.

Mennonites are sometimes confused with the Amish. Both faiths are Anabaptist, practicing adult, rather than infant, baptism. And both believe in absolute pacifism. Certain "old order" Mennonite communities, such as the one in Wolcott, Vt., do adhere to conservative practices and lifestyles similar to those of the Amish — plain dress, a degree of isolation, etc. But the majority of modern Mennonite congregations, including the Bethany church, which is part of the national Mennonite Church USA organization, exist in harmony within their larger communities.

"At the time of the Protestant Reformation, Mennonites, then Anabaptists, didn't think Protestants went far enough away from the Catholic Church in terms of absolute separation of church and state, and as a peace witness," explained Groff, who is from Lancaster, Penn. "The Amish are in that same strain, but they went even further ... and became even more separate from the world."

The small parking lot outside the Bethany church was filled with Subarus and pickup trucks. Inside, the congregation was clad in jeans, sweaters and flannel shirts, reflecting the casual atmosphere of the service. There was only one short reading from the Gospel. Groff's sermon clocked in at under 10 minutes. There was no Lord's Prayer. But there was music, and lots of it. At least half of the hour-long service consisted of congregational hymns, sung in four-part harmony with no accompaniment. Groff said that while the informal tone of services at Bethany are not necessarily typical of Mennonites elsewhere, the reliance on music most certainly is.

"We like to let music bear the message," she said.

**DAN BOLLES**

## Tibetan Buddhism/Shambhala

Hushed voices and mandatory boot removal set a respectful tone at Burlington's Shambhala Meditation Center, even when the place is hopping. That was the case on a recent weeknight: In one room, about a dozen followers of the Tibetan Buddhist practice sat in silent meditation, cross-legged on cushions or seated on chairs. Eyes closed, they faced a shrine adorned with candles and gracefully arranged flowers. Hanging on the wall behind it was a thangka painting flanked by photographs of late Shambhala founder Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche and his son, current leader Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche. Nearby, "timekeeper" Melinda Haselton sat next to a big brass bowl, ready to signal the end of meditation with a gentle "*dong*."

That same evening, a chattier assembly packed another room, prepared to learn about A Year to Live. No, it wasn't a support group for the terminally ill. The subtitle of the program held a clue: "Meeting Life, Meeting Death." In it, participants commit to a year of meditation, readings, journaling and discussions about impermanence; by facing your death, the theory goes, you learn to appreciate life.

Living mindfully is part of the goal of the Shambhala practice. So is the cultivation of "gentleness, sanity and wisdom" through meditation and study. Classes are offered at the center, augmented by retreats at its affiliate, Karmê Chöling, in Barnet. An essential construct in the philosophy is that every person has a "basic goodness," Haselton explained later. At age 30, she's a 10-year veteran of Shambhala who now handles public relations, and trains and coordinates staff. The center has about 80 regular members, Haselton said, though "more come to the programs."



Though the total number of Buddhists in Vermont is hard to calculate, an online director says there are 26 Buddhist centers, for varying sects, around the state.

Director Richard Does, 73, has been there from the center's beginning in the late 1970s. A clinical psychologist, Does noted that there are three lineages of Tibetan Buddhism, each with "a little different spin on how to achieve wisdom." Shambhala, the oldest, "is like the context of the others," he added.

The Dalai Lama — the world's most famous Buddhist — is a proponent of the newest lineage, Gelugpa. Of course, "new" is a relative term in a philosophy whose origins date back a few thousand years. But, Does suggested, the threads significantly overlap. "The play of phenomena is a commonality," he said, as is the view that human strife results from an "incomplete or erroneous view of the world." Ultimately, he said, Buddhist lineages "all flow into the same pool."

Accordingly, Burlington's Tibetan community is welcome at Shambhala Meditation Center, which is where this reporter met Sonam Chophel. An immigrant to Vermont in 1999, he was deputy secretary of religion and culture under His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, the Tibetan exile community in India.

For Tibetans, of course, Buddhist practice has a political overlay: the Chinese occupation of their homeland. On Sunday, a large photo of the Dalai Lama hung over a makeshift altar in the Fletcher Free Library's Community Room, where Chophel had invited *Seven Days* to attend the bimonthly prayer meeting. A droning chant from the mostly older men and women filled the room as he earnestly explained their focus. "What we want is the world as a whole to tell the Chinese that everyone should have religious freedom," Chophel said.

Outside the room, his toddler granddaughter and two other tots cavorted, yet unaware of their roles — as Vermonters — in Tibet's long history.

**PAMELA POLSTON**

## Evangelical Christianity

Was this church, or a rock concert? It was 10 a.m. on Sunday morning when the Worship Team — a nine-member band with electric guitars, keyboards, a drummer and four singers — took the stage. Above them, lyrics flashed karaoke-style on two big screens, and a video of a smiling Jesus weaving through throngs of palm-waving worshipers looped on another.

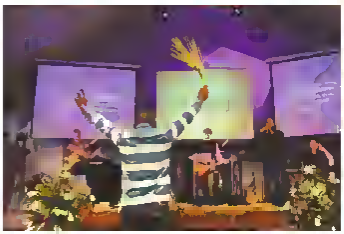
It was Palm Sunday, Jesus' rock-star day.

"This is the Sunday to shout, Hosanna!" declared Glenn Badonsky, a hip, young Alabama evangelist and guest speaker last week at the Community Bible Church in South Burlington. "This is the only time I see Jesus promoting his ministry. And the one time he does promote it, it gets him killed."

The Christian holiday marks the day — a week before his resurrection — that Jesus rode a donkey through Jerusalem and was treated like a king. Worshippers threw their clothes on the ground before him and waved palms as he passed.

PHOTOS: MEGAN JAMES





Last Sunday, in the CBC's airy, modern digs, more than 300 people sang, danced, shook palm branches and, at one point, formed a full-on conga line in worship. The joy in the room was impossible to ignore.

"Wasn't that something, praising the Lord this morning?" asked Badonsky after the crowd settled down for his sermon. "I felt like we were back in Jerusalem." Shouts of "Amen" and "Mm-hm!" bubbled up from the crowd — and kept bubbling throughout the service. When there was a lull, Badonsky offered cheekily, "I'm preachin' better than you're lettin' on."

Community Bible Church is an Assembly of God denomination. Pastor Mike Kriesel later described the group which broke off from the Methodist Church in 1916, as the far arm of the evangelical movement. "We believe in the moving of the Holy Spirit today," he explained.

In the 1970s, during the Jesus Charismatic Movement, Assembly of God was the fastest-growing Christian denomination in the U.S. These days, Kriesel says, there are roughly 12,000 such churches in the U.S., and it's even more popular worldwide. "We actually have the largest church in the world, in South Korea," said Kriesel. "A million people." Community Bible Church has been around since 1945, when a midwestern couple new to Burlington held a tent meeting in what was then a field near Church Street.

About 10 years ago, Kriesel connected with the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program in an effort to reach out to new Americans. The relationship "just grew and grew and grew," he said. The church now gives recent immigrants welcome packets, including invitations to CBC, and runs three shuttles to the church a week.

The Evangelical Movement, Kriesel said, is populated with a lot of former Catholics — himself included. "It's freer," he explained. "The best way to describe it is the difference between religion and relationship."

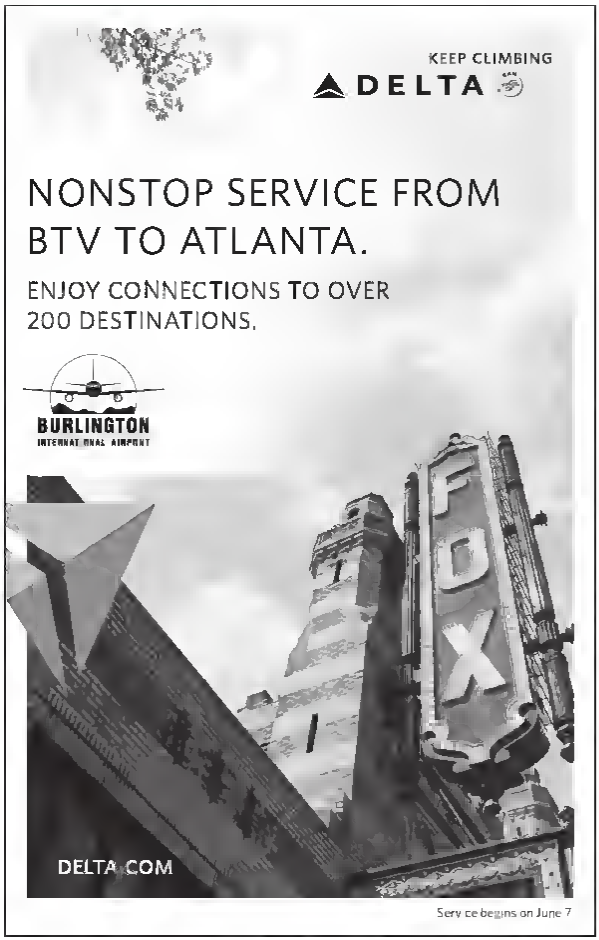
Kriesel and his wife, Diana, also a pastor at CBC, "got saved" in the early '70s. "God really does talk to you," he explained of his "personal" relationship with Jesus. "He wants to be a part of every part of your life, not just something you do on a Sunday."

Or as Badonsky put it, his intensity rising as the Worship Team strummed triumphant chords behind him, "Don't just worship with your mind, be provoked to righteousness."

MEGAN JAMES







# Scoring Points

## Vermont's female composers slowly gain ground in a predominantly male field

BY AMY LILLY

CLASSICAL MUSIC



Lydia Busler-Blais, Cecelia Daigle, Su Lian Tan

KIMBERLY HAJJAR

Vermont composers of contemporary classical music are about to gain well-deserved home-state exposure. The professional choral group Counterpoint and the Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble will both perform concerts dedicated to the work of living local composers on the first weekend in April. As it happens, most of those composers are men — four out of five on VCME's program, and five out of six on Counterpoint's. Which raises the question: Where are the women?

To be fair, this gender imbalance reflects the national picture. The League of American Orchestras' annual statistics reveal that works by women of any era make up about 1 percent of programming. A casual survey by the online forum NewMusicBox found that new-music groups program women's compositions between 8 and 28 percent of the time.

Reasons for the gap are debatable, as they are in any field that has failed to reach gender parity since feminism's second wave. But a handful of Vermont's female composers say what matters to them is that the situation is improving steadily.

Take 91-year-old Margaret Meachem of Dorset. The Bennington College graduate studied composition with one of the 20th century's most renowned pedagogues, Nadia Boulanger. Her commission in 2000 from the Manchester Music Festival was performed by four Metropolitan Opera singers and the Kiev Chamber Choir; recorded her work in 2006. Yet for much of her composing life — which continues today, slightly hampered by spinal stenosis — Meachem had to submit works for competitions under a male pseudonym.

"Women were simply not considered," she explains. In the 1960s, Meachem went to Washington, D.C., to hand-deliver a submission for a National Council on the Arts scholarship. "I walked into the building, and the man said, 'Oh, it's very competitive,' and he wouldn't even take my work," she remembers. "And that wasn't uncommon."

Meachem recalls when a famous British conductor announced on the radio that women did not have the ability to be composers" — that was Sir Colin Davis in the 1970s. Not surprisingly, when the International League of Women Composers (now the International Alliance for Women in Music) formed in 1975, Meachem joined.

She helped found the Consortium of Vermont Composers in 1988. The prolific experimental composer Dennis Bathory-Kitsz of Northfield spearheaded the consortium, and his efforts helped bring to light women composers around the state. Among them is Lydia Busler-Blais of Montpelier, the sole female composer on the upcoming VCME program, though the group has played many women's works over its 25-year history. "We're very keen on supporting Vermont composers," says artistic director Steve Klimowski, who adds that he learns of them "by word of mouth almost exclusively."

Busler-Blais, 42, is a born player who began composing as a child, trained at the New England Conservatory and played in the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra, among other New York ensembles, before moving to Montpelier in 2000.

Because she plays horn around the country, Busler-Blais has managed to get her work programmed, and occasionally commissioned, through fellow musicians. She likens her situation to that of Kathy Wonson Eddy, a composer and former pastor of the Bethany United Church of Christ in Randolph, whose church community literally gives voice to her works. It's an advantage other composers say they regret not having. As Essex composer Mary Elizabeth, 57, notes, "It's really hard and expensive to actually hear what you write."

Though Busler-Blais doesn't belong to women's groups such as IAWM, she does attend the Women Composers' Festival of Hartford [Conn.]. Such events are needed, she says, because attendees "may get a commission and make a living out of this, which not many women do."

More may soon, to her thinking. "Composing is one step behind orchestral players," Busler-Blais avers. That is, orchestras used to be all male, it took 30 years of holding first-round auditions behind a curtain for them to reach gender parity. Busler-Blais herself has watched the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra's horn section go from all men to today's gender-balanced mix.

Busler-Blais notes that the women who are currently being programmed the most, such as Joan Tower and Jennifer Higdon, are "being played over and over because they have name recognition." But in general, she says, "There's a lot more exposure for women composers now. And the ones who are visible now have to be composing for a while before the younger ones want to continue to compose."

One measure of how far women have come is a story offered by Su Lian Tan, a 49-year-old internationally recognized composer, flutist and Middlebury College professor. Tan writes what she admits is "rather difficult" music for highly accomplished musicians, and counts the Hungarian composer György Kurtág among the living composers she most admires. When the acclaimed Takács Quartet, which originated in Hungary, came to Middlebury 12 years ago, it chose to commission Tan over a work from Kurtág. The result was her 2003 string quartet "Life in Wayang."

Tan grew up in Kuala Lumpur and played flute in the Malaysian Philharmonic's precursor as a teenager. After a stint in London, she moved to the U.S. to study at Bennington College, where, as a music major, she was required to take composition. Her first composition teacher was the venerable Vivian Fine. "That was my first encounter with the notion that perhaps a composer could be female," she says.

Though uncomfortable with the phrase "woman composer," Tan admits a recent work, the opera *Lotus Lives*, is both deeply personal and "entirely about women's issues." In it, two female friends, one based on her grandmother, sing an aria about the worldly success they desire for their future granddaughters.

Tan is currently in discussion with WGBH Boston to produce a DVD of the opera that will be broadcast on the TV station. As for women composers in general, she muses, "We're still a novelty, still considered not quite at par. I really don't know why." Perhaps it's simply "indicative of the larger culture," she continues, adding that she was the Middlebury music department's first female chair only about a decade ago. Or, Tan suggests, "Perhaps we're underrepresented because there are actually fewer of us."

Sara Doncaster, an Irasburg resident who has been directing the annual Warebrook Contemporary Music Festival there since founding it 23 years ago, offers a

similar explanation. "It's just left over from the old culture of composition being a man's field."

Doncaster, 48, began studying composition at Boston University after tendonitis forced her to take a break from her piano-performance major. When she went on for advanced degrees at Brandeis University, she was the only female theory-and-composition candidate in the program for three years.

Doncaster has written four major song cycles and begun an opera for her favorite Met Opera tenor, Jon Garrison, among many other works. She teaches band, chorus and music theory at Lake Region Union High School. Not surprisingly, when Nathaniel Lew, artistic director-conductor of Counterpoint, asked her to submit a work for its upcoming concert, she couldn't find the time. "I had a PDF of a work I could have sent to the printer and had mailed to him. I had work done! I'm just really busy," she says.

> WE'RE STILL A NOVELTY, STILL CONSIDERED NOT QUITE AT PAR. I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHY.
> SU LIAN TAN

Lately, composer Peggy Madden, 60, of Windsor, hasn't even had the time to compose. Madden is a high-school paraprofessional who began composing later in life in the electronic-acoustic field — a surprisingly male-dominated specialty, she notes. She was one of several women contacted for this article who have had to put aside composing to make a living.

But Madden has seen signs that augur well for future gender ratios in music programming in her 17-year involvement with the online composition forum MusicCOMP (formerly Vermont MIDI Project), part of which she spent mentoring young composers.

Through Music-COMP, students can submit working drafts of their compositions and receive ongoing feedback from an established composer on staff. Twice a year, the nonprofit chooses the best of the finished pieces to be performed in concert. Currently, the project has 130 submissions, says senior mentor Erik Nielsen.

Nielsen says roughly equal numbers of boys and girls in elementary and middle school submit works. "If there is a shortage, I must admit that it will more often be of high school girls than of males at any level," the Brookfield composer observes, though he adds that this year's high school composers are 'pretty close to 50-50.'"

Music-COMP founder-director Sandi MacLeod says, "We've always had to work a little harder to encourage girls in middle and high school. At a certain age, their attention turns to other things, or they lose confidence."

One young composer who hasn't lost confidence is Harwood Union High School senior Cecelia Daigle of Moretown. The 18-year-old pianist began submitting compositions to Music-COMP in fifth grade. Soon she started "fiddling around on a lot of instruments" to learn how to write for them. Two years ago, the VCME premiered her work *Mortal Fools*, and last weekend the Vermont Philharmonic presented her piece for full orchestra, *Cataclysm*.

"It was amazing," Daigle says matter-of-factly. "I've never heard that many people play my pieces before. The VCME piece was for five instruments, the Philharmonic has 72."

Daigle is headed to the Berklee College of Music in the fall. One day, she may be tapped for a Music-COMP retrospective like the one MacLeod is currently writing, which contains career updates on the "most memorable" composers to participate in the program between 2000 and 2011. MacLeod contacted 29 alums, 12 of them women, and ended up compiling notes on 25 — nine female.

"That's 36 percent," MacLeod says. "That's pretty good!" ⑦

**i** Counterpoint performs "There Alway Something Sings: New Choral Works by Vermont Composers" Friday, April 5, 7:30 p.m. at McCarthy Arts Center, Saint Michael's College, Colchester. Saturday, April 6, 7:30 p.m., at the Unitarian Church, Montpelier, and Sunday, April 7, 4 p.m., at the First Congregational Church, Manchester. $20. counterpointchorus.org.

Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble performs "Lovely After All These Years" Friday, April 5, 8 p.m. at Bethany Church, Montpelier, and Saturday, April 6, 8 p.m., at Black Box Theater at Main Street Landing, Burlington. With Vermont poet laureate Sydney Lea. Tickets at the door only: $25. vcme.org.


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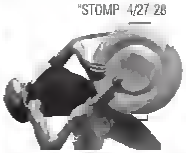
APRIL 2013

| | |
|---|---|
| 4/3 WED | Los Angeles Guitar Quartet @ UVM Recital Hall |
| 4/4 THU | **Malle Meloy & Greg Bolin. "Tome & Tango" (4/4-5)** @ FlynnSpace |
| 4/5 FRI | **First Friday Show & Tell with Hal Mayforth** @ Amy E. Tarrant Gallery |
| 4/5 FRI | Counterpoint Chorus @ McCarthy Arts Center Recital Hall, Saint Michael's College, Colchester |
| 4/6 SAT | **Gallery Exhibit. Hal Mayforth. "Subversive In His Own Little Way"** (Saturdays through 5/11) @ Amy E. Tarrant Gallery |
| 4/6 SAT | Counterpoint Chorus @ Unitarian Church of Montpelier, Montpelier |
| 4/7 SUN | **"Stand Up, Sit Down, & Laugh"** @ FlynnSpace |
| 4/7 SUN | Minetti Quartett @ UVM Recital Hall |
| 4/9 TUE | **FREE FILM: "The Island President"** @ FlynnSpace |
| 4/9 TUE | Winter Encore Concert / Jasper Quartet @ McCarthy Arts Center Recital Hall, Saint Michael's College, Colchester |
| 4/11 THU | **Lyric Theatre Company. "Oliver!"** (4/11-14) @ Flynn MainStage |
| 4/12 FRI | Julie Fowlis @ UVM Recital Hall |
| 4/13 SAT | **Brian McCarthy Quintet** @ FlynnSpace |
| 4/13 SAT | VYO Chorus & Concert Chorale @ Filey-Long Music Center, Saint Michael's College, Colchester |
| 4/14 SUN | Theresa Capulo Live: "The Experience" @ Memorial Auditorium |
| 4/18 THU | **Broadway National Tour: "Hair"** @ Flynn MainStage |
| 4/19 FRI | **John Prine** @ Flynn MainStage |
| 4/19 FRI | Cantus @ UVM Recital Hall |
| 4/20 SAT | **Comedian Bob Marley** @ Flynn MainStage |
| 4/21 SUN | John Pinette @ Memorial Auditorium |
| 4/23 TUE | **Great Big Sea** @ Flynn MainStage |
| 4/24 WED | **Vermont Stage Company. "Good People"** (4/24-5/12)@ FlynnSpace |
| 4/24 WED | Bassnectar @ Memorial Auditorium |
| 4/26 FRI | **Lila Downs** @ Flynn MainStage |
| 4/27 SAT | **"STOMP"** (4/27-28) @ Flynn MainStage |
| 4/27 SAT | Everything Equine (4/27-28) @ Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex |
| 4/27 SAT | Horsin' Around on Saturday Night" @ Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex |
| 4/30 TUE | **Cirque Zuma Zuma** @ Flynn MainStage |

LILA DOWNS 4/26



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# Wheels of Fortune

## A new Vermont cycling team means business

BY SARAH TUFF

SPORT



MATTHEW THORSEN

Adam Carr and Bobby Bailey

A few minutes before Bobby Bailey and I are scheduled to meet at the Starbucks in Williston one recent afternoon, he sends me a text saying how to recognize him. "Only one that ummmmm hopefully looks like a cyclist. No spandex, though."

Indeed, Bailey's snappy shirt and sport coat say "Burlington businessman" way more than "sweat-stained athlete." But, hey, it's winter. And what Bailey is about to unveil to me sounds a lot more like a smart business plan than a simple workout.

We're here to talk about the brand-new Dealer.com-EverBank Cycling Team, a program that matches 10 of Vermont's fastest men and women (well, woman, more on that later) and three junior cyclists with two Green Mountain business giants. The idea is to pave the way for not only the participating athletes' success but also greater brand awareness for the sponsoring companies.

In cycling, which tends to be perceived as an individual sport, it may seem superfluous to create a team. But, as Bailey explains, gathering top cyclists allows them to train together and support each other at races. And when it comes to soliciting sponsors, it makes more sense to have, say, 12 riders wearing a company's logo than just one. Across the country, elite cycling teams operate on this model. Vermont hasn't fielded such a high-caliber squad of competitive riders — until now. Bailey hand-picks the cyclists and coaches them in Chittenden County, title sponsors Dealer.com and the Stowe-based EverBank kick in thousands of dollars to help the team enter and travel to races.

"When you sponsor a cycling team," Bailey explains, "you're getting a 10- to 15-person marketing team that works from March until December."

While Vermont has long been known for its biking scenery, the state's competitive bikers used to ride under the radar when it came to elite-level races.

"If you had asked me 18 years ago if there could be a Vermont-based [bike-racing] team, I would have laughed," says Bailey, who moved here in 1995 to study at St. Michael's College and stayed. "But now, I see these businesses that are here because of the quality of life.' Why not, asks Bailey, enhance awareness of the state by fielding a Vermont team with Vermont sponsors?

Bailey was a top amateur cyclist in the early 2000s and founded 1K2GO Sports, a sports-management company, as a way to train and race with fellow riders and eventually to coach up-and-coming cyclists. (The name refers to the final kilometer of a race — the last chance for a surge toward the finish.)

At first, he saw little infrastructure in Vermont to support such a team. Riders trained here, but they would often move to another state to join a team with more opportunities. Now Bailey sees a chance to change all that.

"Vermont's not just this little tiny corner of the world anymore — we can facilitate a professional team," he says. "We've always had really great athletes, and now we have great businesses with local roots, national connections and international ambitions."

In January, Bailey announced the new partnership that is the 2013 Dealer.com-EverBank Cycling Team — 10 of the state's top riders training and racing together, representing Vermont in some of the world's most competitive events. Additional sponsors include Vermont Nut Free Chocolates, Onion River Sports and Cabot Creamery, which have joined the title sponsors in their mission to support local riders and build their brands.

"We take up a lot of real estate and employ a lot of people, so it's important for us to promote a healthy lifestyle," says Dealer.com marketing vice president Steve Francisco, explaining his company's decision to buy into the new team. The prospects of developing junior riders and promoting health and fitness among kids were appealing, too. So was the chance to actually ride for the team — Francisco is one of the elite cyclists on the new squad.

But Dealer.com's support has a deeper level. "It's a marketing initiative," Francisco says. That means getting the company's name out there, not only for sales but also for recruiting purposes here in Vermont and at its offices in Manhattan Beach, Calif. "We're trying to hire more computer engineers, and Silicon Valley has a number of cyclists who are also computer-science professionals,' explains Francisco. He adds that if a potential recruit sees a Dealer.com logo on a bike jersey in a race, that might flip the switch.

"We're a very valuable marketing asset to a company,' Bailey says. While he can't always guarantee a return on investment,

**VERMONT'S NOT JUST THIS LITTLE TINY CORNER OF THE WORLD ANYMORE — WE CAN FACILITATE A PROFESSIONAL TEAM.**

**BOBBY BAILEY**

WHEELS OF FORTUNE » P.39

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## Wheels of Fortune « P37

be assures potential sponsors that sponsoring a team costs less than running a TV commercial or placing a magazine ad

What about the hit that cycling's reputation took with the Lance Armstrong saga?

"Yeah, there's a negative cloud over the sport," Bailey admits. "But people are still riding their bikes. It hasn't negatively impacted our sponsorship."

In fact, the public attention focused on doping gives programs such as the Dealer.com-EverBank Cycling Team a chance to affect young riders positively. Because cycling has become a game of marginal gains in which the best technology is available to everybody (at a price), riders have to find their advantages, Bailey says. For some, that may mean turning to banned substances. "But for us, it's coaching or nutritional counseling," he says. "We have junior cyclists that we are trying to promote and raise through the sport the right way, through hard work and nutrition and starting them young."

The youngest rider on the Dealer.com-EverBank junior development team is 14, the elite roster also includes professionally ranked Adam Carr and veteran Jake Hollenbach. Bailey, who has a full-time job as a K9 handler with the University of Vermont police department, typically finds members of his all-Vermont team through word of mouth and at events.

The team currently has just one woman — South Burlington's Amy Miner — and that means there may be room for other female athletes looking for team support. "I see a lot of women doing triathlons and running," says Bailey. "But I don't know the answer to how we get more women interested in competitive cycling in Vermont at the elite level."

The answer may lie in the road ahead, as the newly formed team sports its new blue and black jerseys in regional, national and international races. Bailey says the team is transitioning from indoor training to outdoor rides in preparation for races in New York, South America, even Vietnam. Back in Vermont, they'll also hit the three big ones — Bennington's Tour of the Dragons, the Killington Stage Race and the Green Mountain Stage Race. Purses range from $2000 to $20,000.

"I'm not going to say anybody's getting rich doing these races, but if we do well, we can at least cover the team's cost," says Bailey, who sees even bigger business coming from elevating Vermont's profile in the competitive cycling world. "If we can accomplish putting together a pro team, and you have full-time athletes representing Vermont and Vermont sponsors, it would really be wonderful to place us on the map," he says. "I wouldn't be doing this if it wasn't possible — and probable." ⑦



Bobby Bailey and Adam Carr

MATTHEW THORSEN

For more info on the 2013 Dealer.com-EverBank Cycling Team, visit 1k2Go.com/2013


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# Black-Market Maple?

## As its value rises, maple syrup is losing its innocent image

BY CORIN HIRSCH



It's dinnertime inside a Québec restaurant about a half hour north of the Vermont border. A waitress asks her customers if they've hit any sugar shacks earlier in the day. "It's so much fun, isn't it?" she says as she sets down plates of maple-marinated flank steak and maple-glazed Lac Brome duck.

In Québec, which produces more maple syrup than anywhere else in the world, sugaring season can be all consuming. Every March here at Le Relais, overlooking Knowlton's sleepy crossroads, the chef puts together an entire savory course of maple tinged dishes, from maple infused split pea soup to mussels steamed in a maple chipotle broth — all using syrup from "a nearby bush," as the server explains.

Here, the sap's path from producer to consumer seems straightforward and transparent. Yet in the broader market, as maple's value soars, tracing its provenance has become surprisingly problematic. A gallon now sells for about $40, nearly double the price three decades ago, and with that mark-up has come a world of trouble. In 2012, a handful of Vermont producers had barrels of syrup snatched from their farms; last summer, $20 million worth of syrup was stolen from Québec's strategic syrup reserve. That event was to maple producers what the 1990 Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum theft was to the art world.

So far, 23 people have been arrested and more than a dozen have landed in jail for what has been dubbed the Great Canadian Maple Syrup Heist. Officials in Canada and the U.S. are still tracking syrup and untangling the details. Why is the Department of Homeland Security involved? Because at least 12 tankers of the stolen syrup were driven over the border and delivered to St. Johnsbury's Maple Grove Farms, which is now embroiled in the investigation.

It may surprise some Vermonters that a huge volume of maple syrup crosses our border, but this is increasingly common. "So much of the maple processing infrastructure is in Vermont, so it's not uncommon [for producers] to buy syrup from Québec or Maine or New Hampshire," says Matthew Gordon, executive director of the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association. "Their only reason for buying from the outside is that there's such a demand that we can't fill."

Even with more than three million taps, vacuum systems and a pristine reputation, Vermont sugar makers can't sate the needs of the largest Vermont distributors — and consumers elsewhere don't seem to mind. Some state producers simply put the words Pure New England Maple Syrup on their bottles, skirting the authenticity issue. On its bottles, Maple Grove Farms assures customers that "This syrup was made entirely from the sap of a sugar maple tree."

Henry Marckres, the consumer-protection section chief at Vermont's Agency of Agriculture — and its unofficial "maple guy" — says Vermont's labeling laws are clear on how to handle syrup that wasn't generated solely in the state. "There's a lot of syrup being packed in Vermont that isn't made in Vermont," he notes, "as we have quite a few of the major packers."

Founded in 1915, Maple Grove Farms has grown from what its website calls its "sweet beginnings" as a family farm to the largest distributor of maple products in the United States. Though the company didn't respond to phone calls, its representatives have admitted in Canadian court documents that

BLACK MARKET MAPLE » P42

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# SIDEdishes

BY CORIN HIRSCH & ALICE LEVITT

## Cocktails to Charcuterie

JUNIPER TO OPEN IN HOTEL VERMONT

**HEN OF THE WOOD** opening in June, has gotten all the attention, but it's not the only restaurant coming to **HOTEL VERMONT** at 41 Cherry Street in Burlington. As soon as May 1, **JUNIPER** will open for breakfast, dinner and bar service, including late-night snacks. Soon after, lunch will be on the schedule.

Juniper executive chef **DOUGLAS PAINE** is currently finishing his run at **AMUSE** at the **ESSER RESORT & SPA** while starting his new job. The Waterford native honed his chops as longtime executive sous chef at **MICHAELS ON THE HILL**.

Paine calls Juniper "an ingredient-driven cocktail bar." That's reflected in the format of the menu, which features snacks and shared appetizer plates as well as conventional starters, sandwiches and main dishes. However, the description doesn't do justice to the menu's scope.



ALICE LEVITT

The beginnings of the bar at Juniper

When Paine talks about having "some pickles" displayed behind the bar along with the tinctures and bitters for cocktails, he doesn't mean your average pickled egg. His version of the bar staple is applewood smoked and served with morels. Other snacks include popcorn served with honey and brown butter; clothbound cheddar fritters with quince butter; and daily charcuterie selections.

The 30-seat bar leaves plenty of room for guests to gather and get a cocktail or one of 12 regional beers and two wines on tap. Seating also includes a 70-seat banquet room, a large patio and a number of tables spread out across the reclaimed-oak floors overlooking the lobby.

Paine hopes to get an ice cider on tap, too. In the meantime, he'll use the sweet booze in his goat cheese gnocchi with mushrooms, shallot confit and ice-cider beurre blanc.

Entrées won't exceed $30. They include juniper-roasted rabbit with turnips, green garlic and hazelnut gastrique, and a vegetarian dish of polenta and a fried egg with ramps, kale and a mint-pea-shoot pistou. Daily specials, including fish and flatbreads, will make use of the best products the restaurant receives between seasonal menu changes. Guests who just feel like a burger can find that, too, but with grass-fed beef, served with aioli and local Tarentaise cheese on a brioche.

At breakfast time, the bar will serve as a grab-and-go counter with local pastries, croissants and cider doughnuts from **CHAMPLAIN ORCHARDS**. Paine will get oats from **BUTTERWORKS FARM** for slow-cooked oatmeal made with spiced milk, butter and maple syrup. Other comforting morning dishes include roasted mushroom ragout with a poached egg and Tarentaise over **RED HEN BAKING COMPANY**'s all-local Cyrus Pringle bread, Butterworks Farm yogurt with hazelnut granola and seasonal fruit, and eggs served with local bacon, red flannel hash or grilled whey-fed pork terrine.

"The idea of what we're trying to do is take the traditional Vermont food aspects and present them to people in a sophisticated way," Paine says. Sounds like he's on the right track.

— A. L.



ALICE LEVITT

Pizza with house duck confit, broccoli rabe, figs and Boucher blue cheese at nika

## Entrées & Exits

NIKA & FIELDS RESTAURANT OPEN; CUPP'S CLOSES ITS DOORS

'Tis the season of metamorphosis. This Tuesday in Burlington, the restaurant at 83 Church Street completed its transformation from **THREE TOMATOES TRATTORIA** into **NIKA**, a new spot with cork walls, black-slate floors and a Mediterranean-esque menu.

At nika's soft opening last weekend, an invite-only crowd feasted on charcuterie boards, dips, wood-fired pizzas — including one topped with yellowfin tuna, capers and chilis — and fresh ravioli stuffed with fava beans and shrimp.

Chef **DENNIS VIEIRA**'s menu also includes bar snacks and creative appetizers such as an arugula salad dressed with sultanas and carrot vinaigrette, then topped with grilled halloumi cheese. Also on the menu: fresh oysters, Provençal tuna tartare, and main courses heavy on proteins, such as grilled branzino and stuffed quail.

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This week also brought the resurrection of Jericho's **VILLAGE CUP** and **CAROLINE'S FINE DINING** in the combined form of **FIELDS RESTAURANT**, whose soft opening began on Monday at 30 Route 15.

Fields has a lengthy list of wines, beers and spirits to pair with its upscale comfort food. LaPlatte burgers, hot and cold sandwiches, salads, including chopped kale topped with local feta, and entrees ranging from honey-lavender-glazed duck to potato-leek pirogis in a rye-ale jus.

Brunch is a big deal at Fields, too: omelettes, a corned-beef skillet and a "Ploughman's Breakfast" should keep Sunday eaters sated.

SIDE DISHES » P43

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# Black-Market Maple

« P40

it purchased the stolen syrup from Richard Valliéres, a Quebec resident who has been fingered as the heist's ringleader (He's now in jail.) In a statement given to St. Johnsbury's *Caledonian-Record*, a Maple Grove Farms spokesman said, "Maple Grove Farms purchased the maple syrup in good faith with no reason to believe that it was coming from Québec or that it may have been stolen."

The theft cemented some producers' hunches that the black market for maple is a real thing and that it messes with prices.

"It proved my suspicions," says David Marvin of Butternut Mountain Farm in Morrisville, who, with his daughter, Emma, has long theorized that "a significant amount of syrup was moving outside of the system."

The "system" Marvin refers to is based on prices set by the Federation of Québec Maple Syrup Producers, a private but legal cartel formed in 1989 to regulate and promote Québec maple. The federation reigns, in part, by maintaining the strategic reserve in a string of warehouses throughout the province. The heist occured at one in Saint-Louis-de-Blandford, about two hours northeast of Montreal.

**MAPLE IS PART OF THE HEART AND SOUL OF VERMONT AGRICULTURE, AND A LOT OF US DON'T WANT TO SEE IT DIMINISHED.**
**DAVID MARVIN**

Butternut is one of the biggest maple producers and distributors in the state, though. Like Maple Grove, it started humbly. Marvin learned sugaring from his father, after attending forestry school, he returned to the farm to "help grow the market for our products." The family had 4000 taps in South Burlington, and Marvin toted syrup to the Burlington Farmers Market each week. A few decades later, the company runs 16,000 taps, bottles syrup for other producers, makes maple cream and maple candy, and has the equipment to produce granulated maple sugar for food manufacturers all over the country.

That growth brought with it the need for more syrup — a *lot* more syrup. "Our mission is to be a profitable, diversified maple-syrup supplier, and diversification is a powerful word," Marvin says. "We want to be diversified on the customer side, as well as on the supplier side, so we have suppliers in western New York, in Maine, in Québec and in Vermont. Eighty percent [are from] Vermont," he notes.

That diversification can help the company weather bad years — such as 2012, an awful season by all accounts. Even then, with 30 percent less syrup on the market, Marvin and his daughter noticed that prices sometimes stagnated.

"We try to honor the system by basing our pricing on what we think the world market price is," Marvin says. "In 2012, we had expected that customers would understand that we had to raise our prices, but we got tremendous push back." At the time, Marvin suspected it was because unregulated Canadian syrup was flooding the market. "What the stolen syrup did is prove that there's a black market," he says.

Marvin recognizes a few of those who were arrested for the theft. "I know two or three by name, and, in fact, the ringleader has called me every year for the last three years to sell me syrup. I wanted to visit him, but I never did," he says, sounding slightly relieved. Marvin marvels at the idea that other distributors might use syrup of unknown origins. "Something we try to emphasize to our customers is that there's a name and a face to every syrup [product] we sell," he says. "We do mix farms together, but we have complete traceability."

For years now, the Québec federation's quotas have irked some Canadian producers, who liken the system to a monopoly and try to circumvent it, thereby risking a fine. What might make Vermont attractive to such producers is "our totally free market," Gordon points out. While Vermont producers may benefit from federation prices, they can also choose to pay Canadian sellers their asking prices directly, even when these differ from the official federation price.

This is the spine of a black market, and Québec officials have gone as far as setting up phony transactions to catch syrup bootleggers in the act. Yet a fair amount of syrup still makes it over the border, sometimes via producers selling excess syrup to brokers in New Brunswick, which then is exported here.

Anyone who purchases more than 1000 gallons of syrup per year from outside Vermont needs a special license, Marckres says, and must send all purchase and sale records to the state. His department also gets a record of every shipment that comes across the border.

# SIDEdishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41

Sometimes even a dose of celebrity can't save a business in trouble. **GRETEL ANN FISCHER**, runner-up on TLC's "Next Great Baker," closed her Winooski bakery, **CUPP'S CAFÉ**, on March 23. The baker says her lawyer told her to shutter immediately after their meeting on the preceding day. "But I said we had to give people at least one day. I didn't want people to come to an empty spot," she says.

Since Cupp's opened in 2010, Fischer notes, both the business and her family have been kept afloat by the job her husband and co-owner, **BRIAN FISCHER**, works at **REINHART FOODSERVICE**. She cites various factors for the bakery's increasing problems, including the crowded Winooski market, taxes and the city council's recent decision to allow food trucks to park across from Cupp's.

Fischer says she'll continue to work on cookbooks and appear on television and the web while she weighs options for her next move — but she'll stay in Vermont.

—A L & C H



Gretel Ann Fischer

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— hence, he's been tapped by the federation as it investigates the heist.

"If that syrup has been inspected, the paperwork basically wouldn't show a red flag," Marckres says. "There's no way to catch it unless you're really looking for it. It's a little concerning if people were buying syrup from the gentleman in New Brunswick."

The "gentleman" Marckres is referring to is Etienne St. Pierre, an exporter who has basically thumbed his nose at the federation's control for years by purchasing surplus syrup from Quebec producers and selling it to the United States.

While the scale and bravado of the Quebec heist are unprecedented, some Vermonters are already familiar with the unexpected downside of maple's rising value. Stephen Perley and his family have been sugaring in Enosburg Falls for 65 years. Last year, thieves made off with four barrels of syrup — about $7000 worth — from his sugaring house.

It came as a blow during an already difficult season, and Perley says the syrup, and his barrels, were never found. "That's more than a few people could eat, that's for sure," says Perley, who has a theory about the motive. "I figure [the thieves] had a partner who is a sugar maker" and that his syrup got blended in and sold.

The thought that we could be pouring stolen syrup on our pancakes is troublesome enough. But for sugar makers who work hard to ensure transparency, the discovery of "hot" Quebec syrup in Vermont leaves a particularly unsweet taste in the mouth.

"Maple is part of the heart and soul of Vermont agriculture, and a lot of us don't want to see it diminished," Marvin says. "We take maple very seriously, and we don't want to see it messed with." ⑦


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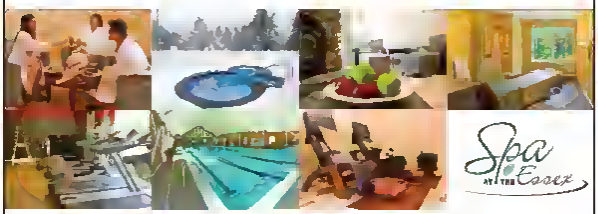
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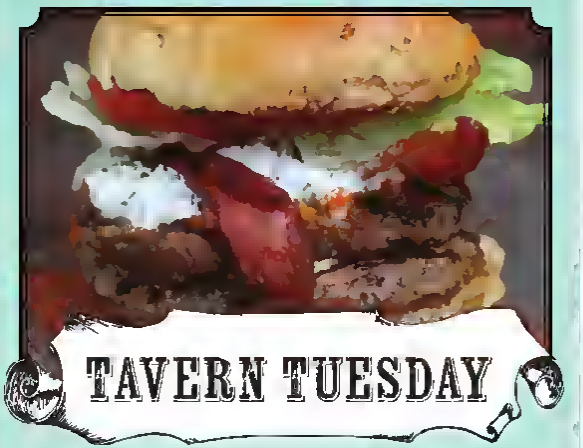
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# Tastes of Little Jerusalem

## Rediscovering Burlington's Jewish food history

BY ALICE LEVITT

A kosher deli on North Union Street? A butcher who would kill chickens while you waited? Backyard ritual slaughter of cows? While the current residents of Burlington's Old North End may pride themselves on their urban agriculture, they can't compare to the hardworking immigrants of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Back then the Old North End was home to "Little Jerusalem," a settlement of Jews who had emigrated from the area of Kovno, Lithuania. They rebuilt their Eastern European community in the Queen City, complete with kosher butchers, bakeries that cooked both bread and Sabbath meals, and, of course, backyard chickens and even cows to be slaughtered by the friendly neighborhood *shochet*.

*Seven Days* rebuilt a picture of all this through first-person interviews, Burlington city directories and books such as Myron Samuelson's *1976 The Story of the Jewish Community of Burlington, Vermont*.

The settlement was first documented around 1880, when a group of 20 Jews began congregating for prayers. Burlington's first synagogue was built in 1887 and was quickly followed by another two years later. At that time, 40 families inhabited Little Jerusalem. Most of them were peddlers. By 1900, many of those peddlers had settled down to open one of Burlington's 11 Jewish-owned grocery stores. Just like today, "pop-ups" (or, at that time, carts) often begat brick-and-mortar businesses.

Inspired by *Little Jerusalem*, a recent documentary from Vermont Public Television, *Seven Days* spoke to a passel of former residents of the long-gone Jewish community about its food and flavors. We tracked them down in their current haunts, from Naples, Fla., to Auburn, Maine.

Annette Lazarus, now 86, was the daughter of cantor Morris Nadelson. As a holy man, Nadelson had a meaty role in the community — literally. He was a *shochet*, schooled in the ritual slaughter that made backyard animals into kosher dinners.

Lazarus remembers begging her father to let her join him as he said the prayers and carefully cut the throat of an animal. "They chained [the animals, including cattle and lambs]. To this day, I can hear the rattling of the chains," says the Middlebury resident. "I like animals, and I guess I never should have gone."



Alec Klinkostein in his deli; at right: sign from the front door of Klink's

Lazarus' father, whom she remembers as an exceptionally gentle man, was apparently none too keen on the ritual, either. She recalls that after he retired, he turned vegetarian. "We were big meat eaters," Lazarus says. "But after retiring, he stopped. He wouldn't say why, but I knew why."

In the later days of Little Jerusalem, when Jews were better integrated into the community and increasingly secularized, Nadelson worried that no one would follow in his footsteps. A youth named George Sanger thought he might fit the *shochet* bill, and at age 17, he gave a dissertation at the synagogue to announce his intentions.

"Mr. Nadelson started giving me lessons on Sabbath afternoons," remembers Sanger, now 73. "I failed miserably. I could not decipher a single line of Talmud." Still, Sanger has pleasant memories of the more gruesome aspects of his studies. "I remember Mr. Nadelson telling me, during one of our sessions, that the insides of a cow's stomach was unbelievably hot," he says. "If the cow had swallowed a nail long enough before you slaughtered it, the nail would be largely melted due to that heat!"

In the end, Nadelson didn't find a successor. A Montréal *shochet* performed Little Jerusalem's final ritual slaughter in 1960, for Burlington-based Solomon's Wholesale Beef, later Solomon Casket.

While kosher beef was in high demand in Little Jerusalem, local, grass-fed beef didn't have the cachet in the early 20th century that it does today. Ed Colodny, 86, whose grandfather, father and uncle each owned a popular nonkosher grocery store, says his family preferred to get its kosher beef from Abraham Fleishman at 37 Bright Street.

"His beef was western beef," says Colodny, an esteemed lawyer and one-time University of Vermont interim president currently wintering in Florida. "It was a little bit more expensive [than beef supplied to butchers by the *shochet*]. Not a lot, but some." However, given the cuts that religious law permitted the kosher

More food after the classifieds section. PAGE 45

butcher to provide, even that beef was far from tender "No sirloin or T-bone steaks," Colodny says with a chuckle

Saiger remembers that he and the other kids referred to Fleishman as "Snoodgeh" behind his back But by the midcentury era, the younger man can remember, Snoodgeh was just a meat wholesaler The town's two remaining kosher butchers — known as Little Fishman and Big Fishman — were each other's only real competition

Dorothy Sussman Fishman remembers those subtleties well Now a resident of Auburn, Maine, she lived in Little Jerusalem in the late 1940s with her in-laws, Sarah and Morris Fishman, while her husband, Louis, attended medical school Fishman recounts that her father-in-law originally came to Vermont from Detroit to help his brother, Joseph, in his meat business When the two brothers' wives didn t get along, Morris Fishman got




lessons in cutting meat, then opened his own store

Known as Little Fishman — though his daughter-in-law remembers both men as diminutive — Morris was the more popular butcher with *Seven Days*' Little Jerusalem interviewees None preferred visiting Joseph's 259 North Winooski Avenue location over having a cup of tea at Morris' at 114 Archibald Street before picking up chickens slaughtered right at the house.

"My father-in-law was a very, very unassuming, very, very quiet man," Dorothy Fishman recalls "The other one [Joseph Fishman] was always talking and complaining The meat [at Morris'] wasn't any better"

Eighty-year-old David Hershberg begs to differ "I know my mother was very fond of Little Fishman," he says "She thought he ran a very good and clean shop. If she went there, it had to be good — she was very fussy"

Most interviewees say they left the meat purchasing to their mothers. They were of the younger generation that enjoyed dining outside the home. And the only place to do that and keep kosher was at Morris Klinkostein's Kosher Delicatessen and Fancy Groceries, better known as "Klink's"

The North Union Street delicatessen is not mentioned in Burlington city directories, so it's difficult to pinpoint the years it was active According to Morris Klinkostein's grandson, Brian Kling his grandfather opened the deli, which started as just a grocery store, Kling's father, Alec, and uncle, Frank, sold the business in the early 1940s when they enlisted to fight in World War II. The deli closed a few years later, and the brothers returned to run the space next door as a photography business.

"They were wonderful brothers," Colodny recalls of the Klinkosteins "It was a hangout for Jewish kids in the North End They had kosher deli foods, but not like New York. Not like the 2nd Ave Deli. They had the salami and the bologna, the corned beef, smoked salmon, all that. The basics were there"

**MORRIS NADELSON WAS A SHOCHET,**
SCHOOLED IN THE RITUAL SLAUGHTER THAT MADE BACKYARD ANIMALS INTO KOSHER DINNERS.

Kling wasn't born until the late 1950s, when the deli was long gone But a neon sign his family passed down tells him that Klink's sold Hebrew National meats. Often too much Kling says his father told stories of having to reduce the size of Frank's enormous sandwiches before serving them, along with a pickle straight from a barrel.

Lazarus and Hershberg agree that their peers weren't really at the deli for the food, anyway "There never has been another kosher restaurant in Burlington," Lazarus says. "It was unusual because it was all young people gathered there"

Hershberg adds, "We thought it was pretty good, but when you go to places like the Stage Deli [in Manhattan] — [Klink's] didn't really have very much. Klink's was a gathering place It was a social thing as much as it was anything else"

Where there's a deli, there's often fresh-baked bread Klink's served its sandwiches on pumpernickel bread from baker Samuel Goldberg, Hershberg recalls Goldberg began baking at 681 Riverside Avenue in the 1920s, back when it was known as First Street. Right across the street at 666 Riverside Avenue, Abraham Cohen competed with him at a business eventually called Cohen's Stone Oven Bakery

Hershberg's family patronized Goldberg — but not always for his bread His oven was the perfect place to cook a brisket on the Sabbath, when religious law prohibited the family from switching on their own oven. "You could take the worst piece of meat and if you put it in a crock pot with beans and potatoes, you could give the Goldbergs a dollar to put it in their oven," Hershberg says In the winter, he recalls, he'd bring the pot to the store on his sled "They would add water to it, and after synagogue on Saturday, we would eat it You could have a pretty tough piece of meat, and after cooking for 24 hours, it tasted like filet mignon."

On Sundays, Goldberg's sold bagels — a business that would stay in the family long after they stopped baking pumpernickel loaves Today, a descendant, Ron Goldberg, and his family own the Bagel Market in Essex Junction

That café-market is one of the few traceable offshoots of the once-thriving food businesses of Little Jerusalem. The demand for Jewish foods died away with the neighborhood, and most former residents say they have long since stopped keeping kosher

Where do they go when they want a nostalgic taste of old-time Burlington? To the strip-malls of South Burlington. Saiger, who now lives in Washington, D.C., says that when he visits the Queen City, he special orders meat from the Shelburne Road Price Chopper The market's Jewish deli, Ben & Bill's isn't strictly kosher, but several former Little Jerusalemites say it's their favorite destination for a taste of time gone by

Meanwhile, the Old North End has once again become ground zero for the cuisines of recent immigrants Vietnamese banh mi and Persian pitas have replaced deli sandwiches, while African markets specialize in halal meats slaughtered with rituals not unlike those Nadelson practiced The countries of origin have changed, but for New Americans, the neighborhood is still the best place to get a taste of home ⑦

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# calendar

MARCH 27-APRIL 03 2013

## WED.27

### agriculture

**INTRO TO KEEPING BEES** Bill Mares, former president of the Vermont Beekeepers Association, shares stories and advice from more than 40 years of observing honey bees' habits. City Market, Burlington. 6:30–8 p.m. $5–10; preregister at citymarket.coop. Info, 861-9700.

### business

**DESIGN FOR SUCCESS SEMINAR** The St. Johnsbury Chamber of Commerce presents ways to transform business exteriors and public spaces to maximize foot traffic and sales. St. Johnsbury House. 8:30–10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 748-1772.

### comedy

**IMPROV NIGHT** Fun-loving participants play 'Whose Line Is It Anyway?'-style games in an encouraging environment. Spark Arts, Burlington. 8–10 p.m. $7 suggested donation. Info, 373-4703.

### community

**A CELEBRATION OF MENTORING** Mentors, mentees and families enjoy each other's company over dinner and an a cappella performance by the UVM Top Cats. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington. 5–7 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 860-0580, ext. 321.

**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY LOCALSOURCE MEETING** Like-minded folks gather to share ideas about getting food and other products from as close to home as possible. Fletcher Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 355-0635.

**OPEN ROTA MEETING** Neighbors keep tabs on the gallery's latest happenings. ROTA Gallery, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 6 p.m. Free. Info, 518-563-0494.

### crafts

**MAKE STUFF!** Defunct bicycle parts become works of art and jewelry that will be sold to raise funds and awareness. Bike Recycle Vermont, Burlington. 6–8 p.m. Free. Info, 274-9687.

### dance

**'SLEEPING BEAUTY'** Set to a Tchaikovsky score, the Russian National Ballet Theatre interprets this classic fairy tale about a princess' long nap. Lyndon Institute. 7 p.m. $26–53. Info, 748-2600.

**WEST-COAST SWING-DANCE LESSONS** Dancers learn this freestyle form to blues, pop and funk tunes. No partner required. Middlebury Fitness. 2:45–3:45 p.m. & 7:05–8:05 p.m. $5–12. Info, 558-1270.

**WEST-COAST SWING-DANCE LESSONS** SHELBURNE See above listing. Shelburne Town Hall, noon–1 p.m. $10. Info, 558-1870.

**WHAT THE BODY DOES NOT REMEMBER** The Belgium-based company Ultima Vez performs a revival of choreographer Wim Vandekeybus' acclaimed 1987 piece of precisely timed, athletic movements that border on dangerous. Moore Theater, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 7 p.m. $10–19. Info, 603-646-2422.

### film

**'56 UP'** The eighth installment of Michael Apted's long-running documentary film project, *Up Series*, catches up with a group of British citizens he began following as children. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 1:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. $4–8. Info, 748-2600.

**BRIDE OF THE WIND** Bruce Beresford's dio-graphical drama depicts the life — and many loves — of gifted composer Alma Schindler, including her marriage to Gustav Mahler. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

**'COCO BEFORE CHANEL'** Audrey Tautou stars as the fashion icon in Anne Fontaine's drama, which closes the Tournées French Film Festival. Room 101, Cheray Science Hall, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 654-2835, tclerfeuille@smcvt.edu.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL** Over the course of 10 days, this 16th annual cinematic celebration of full-length features, shorts and documentaries highlights works of cultural, social and historic significance. Savoy Theater & Pavilion Auditorium, Montpelier. 1:45–10:30 p.m. Prices vary; see gmffestival.org for details. Info, 282-3423.

**RENDEZ-VOUS WITH FRENCH CINEMA** This mini-festival of francophone filmmaking showcases seven newly released flicks. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 1:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. $4–8; see catamountarts.org for details. Info, 748-2600.

**'THE HOUSE I LIVE IN'** Eugene Jarecki's award-winning documentary about the repercussions of the War on Drugs screens as part of Burlington College's civic engagement series. A discussion follows. Film House, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, Burlington, 6:15 p.m. Donations. Info, 540-3018.

**'THE WORLD ACCORDING TO MONSANTO'** Marie-Monique Robin's documentary examines the American agricultural corporation's practices, including its development of genetically modified food. A Q&A follows. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 748-2600.

WED 27 » P48

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## In Harmony



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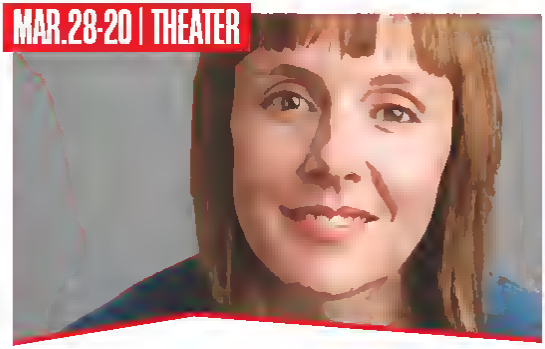
APR.3 | MUSIC

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "Music takes us out of the actual and whispers to us dim secrets that startle our wonder as to who we are, and for what, whence and whereto." Founded in 1976 and named after the great writer, the Emerson String Quartet embodies these words. Nearly 40 years and nine Grammy Awards later, the internationally renowned foursome — violinists Eugene Drucker and Philip Setzer, violist Lawrence Dutton and cellist David Finckel — present what the *Washington Post* calls a "near-telepathic unity" in a program of Romantic works by Dvořak, Schumann and Grieg.

**EMERSON STRING QUARTET**

Wednesday, April 3, 7 p.m., at Spaulding Auditorium, Dartmouth College, Hopkins Center, in Hanover, N.H. $10–40. Info, 603-646-2422, hop.dartmouth.edu.

MAR.28-20 | THEATER



COURTESY OF LOST NATION THEATER

## North of the Border

When crossing the bridge from Burlington to Winooski, the Chace, Champlain and Woolen mills are all visible. These stately brick buildings flanking the river represent a once-thriving textile industry, which relied heavily on the labor of French Canadian immigrants. Their mid-19th-century arrival significantly increased local populations and established the Franco-American heritage that remains prevalent in Vermont today. Inspired by her own family background, comedian and actor Abby Paige embodies several different characters to trace this history in her solo show, *Piecework: When We Were French*. Her simple set includes a patchwork-quilt backdrop, which serves as a metaphor for stitching together the past.

**'PIECEWORK: WHEN WE WERE FRENCH'**

Thursday, March 28, to Friday, March 29, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 30, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., at Montpelier City Hall Auditorium. $15–20. Info, 229-0492, lostnationtheater.org.

# Getting the Word Out

Discussing one's political views can spark intense debates and occasional conflict. But the subject provides plenty of material for the comedians on the nationwide "Laughing Liberally" tour. This offshoot of the off-Broadway production of the same name features a rotating cast of satirical standup comedians who deliver progressive humor to "save democracy one laugh at a time." Funnyman Will Durst — whose acclaimed one man show *The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing* has become a book — joins the talented Scott Blakeman, Lee Camp, John Fugelsang and Negin Farsad in an evening of hilarious anecdotes.

**'LAUGHING LIBERALLY'**
Saturday, March 30, 8 p.m., at Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center in Stowe. $32-42. Info, 760-4634, sprucepeakarts.org.



MAR.30 | COMEDY

COURTESY OF SPRUCE PEAK PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

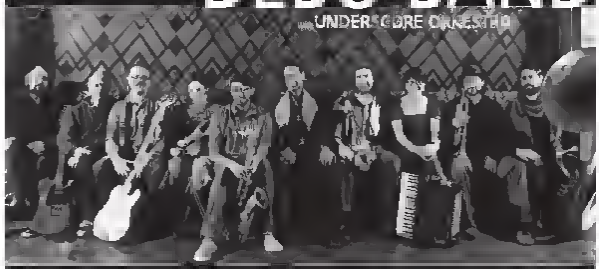


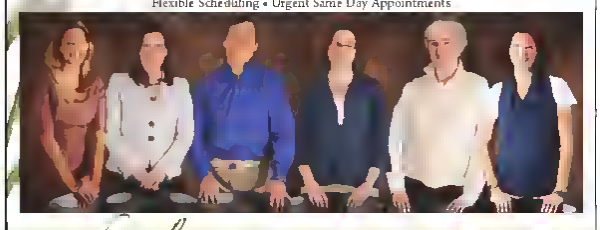
MAR.30 | DANCE

## Testing the Limits

The innovative work of Montreal choreographer Marie Chouinard turns heads each time her dancers step onstage. The compelling artist, whom the *New York Times* dubbed "a hurricane of unbridled imaginativeness," provokes audiences with *Le Sacre du Printemps (The Rite of Spring)* and *Prélude à l'après midi d'un faune (Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun)*. In the former — a key component of her repertoire since 1993 — partially nude performers don spikes and create frenetic yet crisp lines to a Stravinsky score. The latter, a solo set to music by Debussy, uses sophisticated lighting and sound to complement animalistic gestures.

**COMPAGNIE MARIE CHOUINARD**
Saturday, March 30, 8 p.m., at Flynn MainStage in Burlington. $15-45. Info, 863-5966, flynntix.org.

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# calendar

WED.27 « P.46

## food & drink

**A MOSAIC OF FLAVOR SOMALIAN SAMBOUSAS** Fardowsa Yusuf guides participants through the steps to making these savory stuffed pastries. Sustainability Academy, Lawrence Barnes School, Burlington. 6–7:30 p.m. $5–40; preregister at citymarket.coop. Info, 861-9700.

**WINE DOWN WEDNESDAY** Oenophiles sip local vino in good company. A percentage of proceeds benefits Meals on Wheels. Fresh Tracks Farm Vineyard & Winery, Berlin. 4–8 p.m. $4 per glass. Info, 223-1151.

## games

**BURLINGTON GO CLUB** Folks gather weekly to play this deceptively simple, highly strategic Asian board game. Uncommon Grounds, Burlington. 7–9 p.m. Free; bring a set if you have one. Info, 880-9587, dfelcan@yahoo.com.

## health & fitness

**QUIGONG MEDITATION** Marina Ehrlich guides an explorative weekly practice. Rainbow Institute, Burlington. 5:30–7 p.m. $11 suggested donation. Info, 238-7908.

## kids

**BABYTIME PLAYGROUP** Crawling tots and their parents convene for playtime and sharing. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 10:30 a.m.–noon. Free; preregister. Info, 658-3659.

**CHARLIE BROWN MOVIE NIGHT** Little ones don PJs and enjoy a snack of cookies and milk while viewing It's the Easter Beagle, Charlie Brown. JCPenney Court, University Mall, South Burlington. 6:30–7:15 p.m. Free. Info, 863-1066, ext. 11.

**ENOSBURG PLAYGROUP** Children and their adult caregivers immerse themselves in singing and other activities. American Legion, Enosburg Falls. 10:30–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**FAIRFIELD PLAYGROUP** Youngsters find entertainment in creative activities and snack time. Bent Northrop Memorial Library, Fairfield. 10:30–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**NIGNGATE STORY HOUR** Gigglers and wigglers listen to age-appropriate lit. Highgate Public Library. 11:15 a.m. Free. Info, 868-3970.

**MAY'S WORLD MUSIC & MOVEMENT** Energetic children lace up their dancing shoes for a fun class with May Poduschnick. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. 10:30–11:15 a.m. Free. Info, 388-4097.

**MONTGOMERY PLAYGROUP** Little ones exercise their bodies and minds in the company of adult caregivers. Montgomery Town Library. 3:30–4:30 p.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**MOVING & GROOVING WITH CHRISTINE** Two- to 5 year-olds jam out to rock and roll and world beat tunes. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

**PRESCHOOL DISCOVERY PROGRAM: NATURE'S SHAPES** Little learners examine circles, triangles and squares as seen in animals, plants and rocks, then head outside to identify the patterns. North Branch Nature Center, Montpelier. 10:30–11:30 a.m. $5–8. Info, 229-6206.

**READ TO A DOG** Bookworms share words with a friendly, fuzzy therapy pooch. Fairfax Community Library. 3:45–4:15 p.m. Free; preregister for a time slot. Info, 849-2420.

**ST. ALBANS PLAYGROUP** Creative activities and storytelling engage young minds. NCSS Family Center, St. Albans. 9:30–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**STORY TIME & PLAYGROUP** Read-aloud tales pave the way for themed art, nature and cooking projects. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 426-3581.

**"THE RAINBOW FISH"** ArtsPower's musical adaptation of Marcus Pfister's classic tale features the most beautiful creature in the ocean who learns lessons of sharing and sacrifice. Chandler Music Hall, Randolph. 10 a.m. $6; for grades pre-K to 2. Info, 728-6464.

**YOUTH MEDIA LAB** Aspiring Spielbergs learn about moviemaking with local television experts. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. 3:30–4:30 p.m. Free; preregister; limited space. Info, 388-4097.

## music

**BRIT FLOYD** In "The Pink Floyd Ultimate Light and Sound Experience," the renowned group delivers a multimedia show of meticulous interpretations of famous material. Flynn MainStage, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $15–46. Info, 863-5966.

**"THE NEXT GENERATION" AUDITIONS** Area high school students ages 18 and younger present brief instrumental ensemble or vocal material for consideration for the May concert. Call to schedule an audition slot. Chandler Music Hall, Randolph. noon. Free; preregister. Info, 728-9402.

## outdoors

**FULL MOON WALK** Locals stroll by lunar light and discuss the seasonal behaviors of area wildlife. If necessary, snowshoes will be provided. Macrae Farm Park, Colchester. 7 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 863-5744, americorps@vwpd.org.

## seminars

**E-BOOK & E-AUDIOBOOK DROP-IN DAY** High-tech bookworms learn how to access downloadable titles for their devices. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Free. Info, 388-4369.

**"LET'S GET ORGANIZED" WORKSHOP** The Vermont Family Network leads a roundtable discussion with parents who create an efficient filing system for their children's medical and educational records. Burlington School District Central Office. 1–3 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 876-5315, ext. 218; janice.sabett@vtfn.org.

**SOLAR NET-METERING WORKSHOP** Members of the Marshfield Energy Committee lead an informative session on financing single and group systems to utilize the sun's resources. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. 7 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 426-3100.

**TECH HELP** Readers learn how to take advantage of the library's online offerings. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier. 10:30–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

## sport

**GREEN MOUNTAIN TABLE TENNIS CLUB** Ping-pong players swing their paddles in singles and doubles matches. Knights of Columbus, Rutland. 7–10 p.m. Free for first two sessions; $30 annual membership. Info, 247-5913.

## talks

**PUBLIC FORUM ON MARIJUANA DECRIMINALIZATION** The Greater Barre Democrats lead an open discussion about the pros and cons of the issues surrounding proposed legislation. A Q&A follows. Milne Room, Aldrich Public Library, Barre. 6–8 p.m. Free. Info, 476-4185.

**RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER PANEL** Former program participants recount their service experiences in a Q&A session with community members. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 4–6 p.m. Free. Info, 656-8269.

## theater

**"4000 MILES"** Michael Dove directs Vermont Stage Company's production of Amy Herzog's acclaimed play in which a young man bonds with his grandmother after he bikes across the country. FlynnSpace, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $24.30–32.50. Info, 863-5966.

**"STRIDER"** Erin Galligan Baldwin directs a U-32 High School production of Mark Rozovsky's play which uses music, movement and poignant storytelling to portray the connections between humans and horses. Montpelier City Hall Auditorium. 7:30 p.m. $8–10. Info, 229-0321, ext. 5803.

### words

**BURLINGTON WRITERS WORKSHOP MEETING** Members read and respond to the poetry and prose of fellow wordsmiths. Participants must join the group to have their work reviewed. Halfdozen. Burlington. 6:30–7:30 p.m. Free; preregister at meetup.com. Info, 383-8104.

**CONTEMPLATIVE MEETING** Reading material inspires discussion about Gnostic principles relative to "Truth and Reality." Foot of the Hill Building, St. Albans. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 524-9706.

**DINE & DISCUSS** Led by Edward Cashman, folks share a meal and conversation about Jill Ker Conway's *The Road to Coorain*. Brownell Library, Essex Junction. 6–8:30 p.m. Free; preregister, bring an Australian dish to share. Info, 878-6955.

**FRIENDS OF BBOWNELL BOOK SALE** Bibliophiles expand their literary collections and support library programs and collections in the process. Brownell Library, Essex Junction. 9 a.m.–9 p.m. Free. Info, 878-6955.

**NORWICH UNIVERSITY WRITERS SERIES** Award-winning author James Patrick Kelly excerpts two science fiction novels. Multipurpose Room, Kreitzberg Library, Norwich University, Northfield. 4:30 p.m. Free. Info, 778-0284.

**PAINTED WORD POETRY SERIES** A series highlighting established and emerging New England poets features Ben Aleshire. Fleming Museum, UVM, Burlington. 6–7 p.m. Free. Info, 656-0750.

**SPRING BOOK SALE.** Lit lovers leaf through affordable titles to add to their bookshelves. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier. 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

## THU.28

### agriculture

**SPRING GARDENING SERIES: WEEDS & WATERING** Master gardener Kelly Wakefield shares her expertise for managing vegetable plots and keeping away pesky vegetation. Fairfax Community Library. 6–8 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 849-2420.

### art

**LIFE-DRAWING CLASS** Live models inspire studies of line work and shading. Chaffee Art Center, Rutland. 6–9 p.m. $15.20. Info, 775-0356.

### business

**FRANKLIN COUNTY REGION JOB & CAREER EXPO** Attendees network with more than 65 area businesses and agencies which offer employment opportunities and available services. Collins Perley Sports Complex, St. Albans, noon–5 p.m. Free. Info, 527-6513, msavoy@fcsuvt.org.

### conferences

**VERMONT ORGANICS RECYCLING SUMMIT** Through workshops, demonstrations and a keynote address from BioCycle columnist Sally Brown, area professionals learn strategies for complying with Act 148, the state's new solid-waste legislation. Vermont Technical College, Randolph. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. $50; see compostingvermont.org for details. Info, 277-3360, ext. 102.

### etc.

**AMBASSADOR SILENT AUCTION** Attendees of this 21st annual event bid on hundreds of items while sampling fare from area restaurants as part of Taste of the Chamber. Grand Maple Ballroom, Davis Center, UVM, Burlington. 5:30–8:30 p.m. $10-20. Info, 863-3489, ext. 220.

### film

**56 UP** See WED.27, 7:30 p.m.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL.** See WED.27, 2:10–10 p.m.

**IN ORGANIC WE TRUST** Kip Pastor's 2012 documentary examines how corporate involvement in the rapidly growing industry affects small-scale food growers. Town Hall Theatre, Woodstock. Q&A with local farmers, 6:30 p.m.; film, 7:30 p.m. Donations. Info, 457-3981.

**MAKERS: WOMEN WHO MAKE AMERICA** AOL and PBS collaborated to profile powerful females whose actions have shaped our society over the past 50 years. St. Albans Historical Museum, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 527-7933.

**PLAY AGAIN** In a powerful statement about reconnecting with nature, Tonje Hessen Schei's award-winning documentary follows a group of tech-savvy teens who "unplug" and embark on a wilderness adventure. Burlington High School, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 868-4920, csouller@bsdvt.org.

**RENDEZ-VOUS WITH FRENCH CINEMA** See WED.27, 5:30 p.m.

### food & drink

**BUNNY THURSDAY** Easter's mascot inspires this costumed affair judged by ice-cream gurus Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield, who include the shop in their "Stamp Money Out of Politics" initiative. Nutty Steph's, Middlesex, 6–midnight. Free. Info, 229-2090.

**BURLINGTON WALK/BIKE COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING** Fans of green transportation dine on healthy fare and consider energy efficient ideas as presented by UVM professor Richard Watts in "Walking in Burlington." Second-floor boardroom, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, Burlington. 5:15–8 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 861-2700, ext. 103; stevenorman@fastmail.com.

### health & fitness

**ABOVE THE CITY MEDITATION NIGHT** Attendees attune their bodies and minds breath by breath. Comfortable clothing and personal cushions recommended. October Tea Room, Burlington. 6–7:30 p.m. Donations. Info, 651-1054.

**FLUID YOGA** Early risers focus on arm balances, proper alignment and creative sequencing based on vinyasa principles. A guided meditation follows. SEABA Center, Burlington. 7:15 a.m. $5 suggested donation; see pascuccifyoga.com for details. Info, 859-9222.

**INTRODUCTION TO ONENESS BLESSING/OEEKSHA** Like-minded locals learn about attaining higher states of consciousness through processes that initiate neurobiological changes in the brain. Spirit Dancer Books & Gifts, Burlington. 7:15–8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 660-6060.

### kids

**ALBURGH PLAYGROUP** Tots form friendships over music and movement. Alburgh Family Center of NCSS. 9:30–11 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**FAMILY GAME NIGHT** Kiddos ages 3 to 10 who know their colors and numbers play interactive versions of bingo and other popular pastimes. Center Court, University Mall, South Burlington. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 863-1066, ext. 11.

**FLETCHER TUMBLE TIME** Exuberant youngsters find an outlet for all of that energy. Gymnasium, Fletcher Elementary School, Cambridge. 9–10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**FRANKLIN STORY HOUR** Lovers of the written word perk up for read-aloud tales and adventures with lyrics. Haston Library, Franklin. 10:10–10:45 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**LEGO FUN** Budding builders in grades K and up create unique structures with brightly colored pieces. Brownell Library, Essex Junction. 3:4:30 p.m. Free. Info, 878-6956.

**MIDDLEBURY PRESCHOOL STORY TIME** Little learners master early literacy skills through tales, rhymes and songs. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. 10:30–11:15 a.m. Free. Info, 388-4369.

**MONTGOMERY INFANT/TODDLER PLAYGROUP** Infants to 2 year-olds idle away the hours with stories and songs. Montgomery Town Library. 10:11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

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CENTRAL TO YOUR NEW LIFE





Colleen Heran MD, Ob/Gyn



Donna, RN, Ob Nurse



Carolyn Lorenz Greenberg, MD, Pediatrician



Stevie, RN, CBE, IBCLC, Lactation Consultant

*"The staff was very friendly and accommodating. It really was great."* Brian and Angie Bartos welcomed their second child, their son Grady James Bartos, into the world on March 20. Grady's big brother Clayton and his grandparents, who came all the way from Muskegon, Michigan, celebrated as well. Grady weighed 8lb/3oz and was 21 inches long. He looks a lot like his mama. We wish the happy Bartos family the best of everything. They live in Stowe.

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Best Hospital

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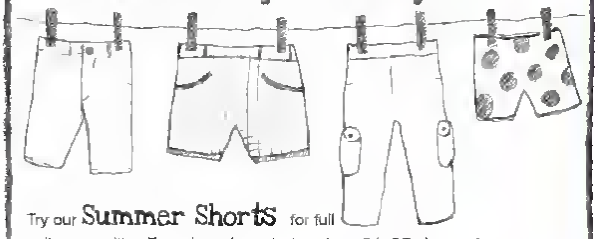
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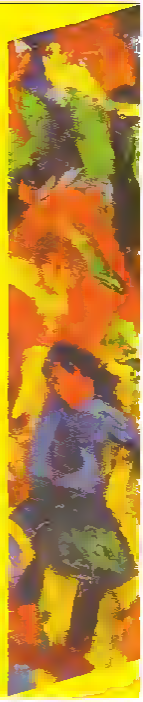
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SEVEN DAYS

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The Homegrown Guide to Burlington, VT

THU.28 « P43

**MUSIC WITH MR. CHRIS** Singer, storyteller and puppeteer Chris Dorman entertains kids and parents alike. Buttered Noodles, Williston, 10–10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 764-1810.

**MUSIC WITH RAPHAEL** Preschoolers up to age 5 bust out song and dance moves to traditional and original folk. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 10–10:30 a.m. Free; limited to one session per week per family. Info, 878-4918.

**BU12² PCAYOROUP** LGBTQA families bring infants and children up to age 4 together for crafts and physical activities. Leaps and Bounds Child Development Center, Essex Junction, 9–10 a.m. Free. Info, 860-7812.

**TEEN MOVIE** Fairy-tale elements meet cheeky comedy in 1987's *The Princess Bride*. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 4 p.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

**YOUTH EDUCATION SERIES: BEAKMAN ON THE BRAIN WITH PAUL ZALOOM** The star of the Emmy Award–winning children's television show "Beakman's World" uses props and wacky humor to demonstrate how the mind works. Lebanon Opera House, N.H., 10 a.m., $5–10, for grades 3 to 6. Info, 603-448-0400.

## music

**ALL-STAR JAMBOREE** Members of the Trey Anastasio Band, Soule Monde and Vorcza hit the stage with original grooves and instrumental arrangements in an epic jam session. Dibden Center for the Arts, Johnson State College, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 635-1476.

**NOONTIME CONCERT SERIES** Organist Lynnette Combs plays works in the spirit of Lent and Maundy Thursday. First Baptist Church, Burlington, 12:15–12:45 p.m. Free. Info, 864-6515.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT** Musical performers of all ages step up to the stage and showcase their skills in a supportive atmosphere. ArtisTree Community Arts Center & Gallery, Woodstock, 7–9 p.m. Free. Info, 457-3500.

**PIEBO BONAMICO** The Mad River Chorale artistic director performs the solo show "A Little Naughty Night Music: Songs Your Mother Never Taught You" to raise funds for a steel drum band to join the group's spring concert. Big Picture Theater & Cafe, Waitsfield, 8 p.m. $20–25; includes coffee and dessert, cash bar. Info, 496-4781.

**THE NIT MEN** The original members of the popular 1960s band the Four Seasons reunite to perform songs from the musically rich decade. Casella Theater, Castleton State College, 7–9 p.m. $15–20. Info, 468-1119.

## outdoors

**LONG TRAIL HIKE PREPARATION** Green Mountain Club members join Eastern Mountain Sports staff in a presentation of planning strategies and necessary supplies for long- and short-term excursions. Eastern Mountain Sports, South Burlington, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 864-0473.

## sport

**HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS** Slam dunk! In "You Write the Rules," the charismatic basketball team brings comedy and athleticism to a theatrical performance on the court. UVM Patrick Gymnasium, South Burlington, 7 p.m. $22–35. Info, 866-442-8849.

## talks

**ASHLEY BESSETTE** In the narrated slide show "Dancing Across West Africa," the New Haven native discusses her travels to Ghana with the Global Village Project. Lawrence Memorial Library, Bristol, 7:8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 453-4147.



COURTESY OF EMBER PUTTO

**BRIAN MONG & EMILY JOHNSON** Adventures abound in the Vermont photographers' multimedia presentation "Off Piste in the Alps — Bicycle Powered Skiing in the Swiss and Italian Alps | Inn at Long Trail," Killington, 7:8:45 p.m. Free. $5 raffle. Info, 496-3434.

**BRUCE LAMBRECHT** The president of Minneapolis-based real estate company Investment Management presents "The Little Idea That Could." White Chapel, Norwich University, Northfield, 6 p.m. Free. Info, 485-2633.

**MUSICA BOREALIS: MUSIC OF THE NORTH** The film *Mouth harp and the North*, featuring award-winning Siberian musicians German and Klavdia Khatylaev, inspires conversation about the khomus, an instrument unique to the region. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 7:8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

**REBECCA WALKER** The bestselling author opens UVM's Blackboard Jungle Symposium with a keynote address related to the theme "Beyond Categories: Reaching Our Common Ground." A book signing follows. Ira Allen Chapel, UVM, Burlington, 4 p.m. Free. Info, 656-8426.

## theater

**4000 MILES** See WED.27, 7:30 p.m.

**ALICE IN WONDERLAND** Vergennes Union Elementary School presents Lewis Carroll's classic tale of a young girl's madcap adventures in a bizarre underground world. Vergennes Union High School & Middle School, 6:30 p.m. $3–5. Info, 877-3761.

**NATIONAL THEATRE OF LONDON LIVE** A broadcast production of Alan Bennett's comedy *People* stars award-winning actress Frances de la Tour as the eccentric owner of a dilapidated mansion used as the set of an adult film. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury, 7 p.m. $10–23. Info, 748-2600.

**PIECEWORK: WHEN WE WERE FRENCH** Vermont's Franco-American heritage comes alive through several different characters played by Abby Paige in her solo show. See calendar spotlight. Montpelier City Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. $15–20. Info, 229-0492.

## words

**BEN ALESHIRE & ROBERT MCKAY** Burlington's Honeybee Press poets share selections of provocative, original verse. The Writers' Barn, Shelburne, 7:30 p.m. Free; preregister, limited space. Info, 985-3091.



COURTESY OF RACHEL DEVERANCE

**FRIENDS OF BROWNELL BOOK SALE** See WED.27, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**OPEN STAGE/POETRY NIGHT** Readers, writers and singers perform in a constructive atmosphere that features songwriter Stan Oliva. ROTA Gallery, Plattsburgh, N.Y., 8 p.m. Free. Info, 518-314-9672, rotagallery@gmail.com.

**ROBERT & MARTHA MANNING & DARY MARGOLIS** The travel writers discuss their respective journeys as featured in *Walking Distance and Seeing the Songs*. Phoenix Books Burlington, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 448-3350.

**SPRING BOOK SALE** See WED.27, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

# FRI.29

## conferences

**UVM BLACKBOARD JUNGLE SYMPOSIUM** The theme "Beyond Categories: Reaching Our Common Ground" informs workshops, panel discussions and keynote addresses which examine issues of racial and ethnic diversity. Fourth floor, Davis Center, UVM, Burlington, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. $20–30; preregister, see uvm.edu/bbjs for details. Info, 656-8426.

## dance

**QUEEN CITY CONTRA DANCE** Giant Robot Dance doles out live tunes as members of the Mad Robin Callers Collective dictate the steps. Gymnasium, Edmunds School, Burlington. Beginners session, 7:45 p.m.; dance, 8:11 p.m. $8; free for kids under 12. Info, 371-9492 or 343-7165.

**QUEEN CITY TANGO MILONGA** No partner is required for welcoming the weekend in the Argentine tradition. Wear clean, soft-soled shoes. North End Studios, Burlington. Introductory session, 7:7:45 p.m.; dance, 7:45–10 p.m. $7. Info, 877-6848.

**UVM SALSA AND SWING SOCIETY** Latin rhythms get feet moving and hips shaking at this social dance hosted by the popular campus club. Dance Studio, UVM Patrick Gymnasium, South Burlington, 7–10 p.m. $11. Info, 656-3131, sass@uvm.edu.

## film

**GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL** See WED.27, 2:10–5 p.m.

**"QUARTET"** Dustin Hofman's directorial debut stars Maggie Smith, Michael Gambon and Billy Connolly as residents of a home for retired musicians whose annual concert gets disrupted by a face from the past. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury, 5:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. $4–8. Info, 748-2600.

**WAR WITCH** Set in sub-Saharan Africa, Kim Nguyen's drama tells the harrowing story of a 14-year-old girl who is kidnapped and trained as a child soldier then impregnated by her commander. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury, 5:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. $4–8. Info, 748-2600.

## food & drink

**BRANDON MUSIC CAFÉ SUPPER CLUB** Foodies dine on a three-course meal in a pleasant atmosphere. Brandon Music Café, 5–9 p.m. $16.50; preregister. BYOB. Info, 465-4071.

**PASTA NIGHT** Community members load up on carbs topped with "Gman's" famous homemade sauce. Live music by Leno & Young follows. VFW

FRI.29 » P52

The Vermont's Table Speaker Series, in collaboration with Galaxy Bookstore, presents:

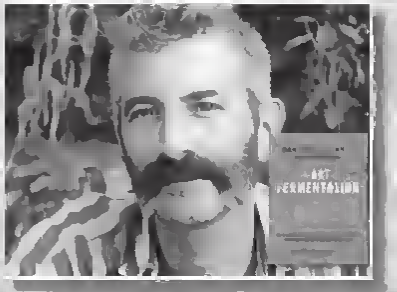
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FRI.29 « P.51

Post, Essex Junction, 5:30-7 p.m. $3-7. Info 878-0700.

## health & fitness

**AVOID FALLS WITH IMPROVED STABILITY** A personal trainer demonstrates daily practices for seniors concerned about their balance. Pines Senior Living Community, South Burlington, 10 a.m. $5. Info, 658-7477.

## kids

**ENOSBURG FALLS STORY HOUR** Young ones show up for fables and finger crafts. Enosburg Public Library, 9-10 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5421.

**FAIRFAX COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP** Kiddos convene for fun via crafts, circle time and snacks. Health Room, Bellows Free Academy, Fairfax, 9-10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5421.

**ISLE LA MOTTE PLAYGROUP** Stories and crafts make for creative play. Isle La Motte Elementary School, 7:30-9:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PLANNERS & HELPERS** Lit lovers in grades 6 to 8 plan cool projects for the library. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free. Info, 878-6955.

**MONTGOMERY TUMBLE TIME** Physical fitness activities help build strong muscles. Montgomery Elementary School, 10-11 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**SWANTON PLAYGROUP** Kids and caregivers squeeze in quality time over imaginative play and snacks. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Swanton, 10-11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5421.

**WRITE ON!** Budding wordsmiths ages 8 to 10 brainstorm ideas and spin a story or two. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 3:30-4 p.m. Free. Info, 223-4615.

## music

**AMERICAN ROOTS CONCERT** Robert Resnik emcees performances by Pete Sutherland, Modern Grass Quintet and others at this celebration of the multifaceted genre. Champlain Valley Union High School, Hinesburg, 7 p.m. $10-15. Info, 482-7194.

**DAWES** With a repertoire borne out of California's famed Laurel Canyon, this folk-rock band channels a vintage sound. Bronze Radio Return open. Foeger Ballroom, Jay Peak Resort, 8:30 p.m. $40-45; $125 VIP tickets. Info, 327-2154.

**PATRICK FITZSIMMONS** The local singer-songwriter presents an intimate evening of acoustic selections. Recycled Reading of Vermont, Bristol, 7:9 p.m. Free. Info, 453-5982.

**QUIET LION, MARYSE SMITH & THE DUPONT BROTHERS** The Vermont-based performers unplug their amps and showcase their talents for acoustic folk and Americana. Jenke Arts, Burlington, 7 p.m. $10, for ages 21 and up. Info, 238-9707.

## talks

**NORM BLEICHMAR** In "Prayer That Works," the Christian Science practitioner discusses the ways in which individuals of all faiths can deal with the challenges of everyday life. College Hall, Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 479-1238 or 223-2477.

## theater

**'4000 MILES'** See WED.27, 7:30 p.m.

**FRACTURED FAIRY TALES** The Little City Players put a twist on classic childhood stories with "Rumpelstiltskin Revisited," "The True Story of the Three Little Pigs" and "Fairytale.com." Vergennes Opera House, 7:30 p.m. $10-12. Info, 877-6737.

**NATIONAL THEATRE OF LONDON LIVE** See THU.23, Town Hall Theater, Middlebury, 7 p.m. $10-17. Info, 382-9222.

**"OUR TOWN" OF WOODCHUCK, VERMONT** Woodchuck Theatre Company presents George Woodard's lighthearted play about small-town life from days of old. Thatcher Brook Primary School, Waterbury, 7 p.m. $10. Info, 800-811-4045.

**PIECEWORK: WHEN WE WERE FRENCH** See THU.28, 7:30 p.m.

## words

**FRIENDS OF BROWNELL BOOK SALE** See WED.27, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

**SPRING BOOK SALE** See WED.27, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

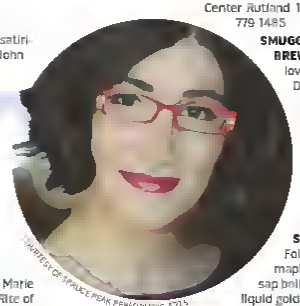
# SAT.30

## art

**BEAUTIFUL BATIK WORKSHOP** Under the guidance of Jen Lable, participants learn the fundamentals of this Indonesian art form and create original designs on silk fabric. Davis Studio, Burlington, 10 a.m.-noon. $24, includes materials. Info, 425-2700.

## comedy

**LAUGHING LIBERALLY** Progressive humor from satirical standups Will Durst, John Fugelsang, Negin Farsad, Scott Blakeman and Lee Camp gets the political giggles going. See calendar spotlight. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, Stowe Mountain Resort, 8 p.m. $32-42. Info, 760-4634.




## dance

**COMPAGNIE MARIE CHOUINARD** Acclaimed Canadian choreographer Marie Chouinard presents *The Rite of Spring* and *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*. Performance contains partial nudity. See calendar spotlight. Flynn MainStage, Burlington, 8 p.m. $15-45. Info, 863-5966.

## fairs & festivals

**BRAZIL FEST DANCE PARTY** The Afro-Brazilian rhythms of Sambatucada! warm up the stage for street sounds by special guest Brass Balaga. North End Studio A, Burlington. Latin food and drink, 6:30 p.m.; music, 7:15 p.m. $8-10, plus cost of food and drink. Info, 238-7931.

## film

**GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL** See WED.27, 10 a.m.-10:45 p.m.

**QUARTET'** See FRI.29, 5:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**WAR WITCH'** See FRI.29, 5:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

## food & drink

**BLACK TEA CLASS** Stone Leaf Teahouse's Matthew Frayer explains the history of this famous beverage and how to detect flavor subtleties in different varieties. Tulsi Tea Room, Montpelier, 4 p.m. $15. Info, 223-0043.

**BURLINGTON WINTER FARMERS MARKET** Farmers, artisans and producers offer fresh and prepared foods, crafts and more in a bustling indoor marketplace with live music, lunch seating and face painting. Memorial Auditorium, Burlington, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info, 310-5172, info@burlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

**COLCHESTER-MILTON ROTARY CLUB CALCUTTA.** Folks dine on chicken piccata, pasta, Caesar salad and dessert, then vie for various prizes. The top winner gets $2000. Proceeds benefit local charities. The Essex Culinary Resort & Spa, 6-9:15 p.m. $150. Includes dinner for two and one Calcutta ball cash bar. Info, 658-4182.

**GREEK PASTRY SALE & DINNER** Phyllo dough delights such as baklava and spinach pie complement hearty offerings of chicken souvlaki and beef gyros. Greek Orthodox Church Community Center, Burlington. Pastry sale, 10 a.m.; dinner and takeout, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Cost of food. Info, 862-2155.

**MIDDLEBURY WINTER FARMERS MARKET** Crafts, cheeses, breads, veggies and more vie for spots in shoppers' totes. Mary Hogan Elementary School, Middlebury, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info, 247-4699, gildrienfarm@gmail.com.

**NORWICH WINTER FARMERS MARKET** Farmers offer produce, meats and maple syrup, which complement homemade baked goods and hand-crafted items. Tracy Hall, Norwich, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info, 384-7447.

**QUEEN CITY CHILI COOK-OFF** Live music complements the fiery flavors of this friendly competition, in which chefs aim to please the palates of the public and judges alike. Proceeds benefit the Burlington Fire Fighters Association. Nectar's, Burlington, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. $5, free for children under 12. Info, 865-4563.

**RUTLAND WINTER FARMERS MARKET** More than 50 vendors sell local produce, cheese, homemade bread and other made-in-Vermont products at this indoor venue. Vermont Farmers Food Center, Rutland, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info, 779-1485.

**SMUGGLERS' NOTCH BREWFEST® PART TWO** Hops lovers pick up where last December's celebration left off sipping craft beers while sampling munchies from the Mountain Grille Smugglers' Notch Meeting House, Jeffersonville, 6-10 p.m. $18 for 21 and older. Info, 644-8851.

**SUGAR ON SNOW PARTY** Folks sample this traditional maple syrup treat and watch sap boil down into Vermont's liquid gold. Palmer's Sugarhouse, Shelburne, noon-4 p.m. Free. Info, 985-5054.

**WAITSFIELD INDOOR FARMERS MARKET** Farm-fresh edibles and locally made provender go hand in hand with music and community cheer. Big Picture Theater & Cafe, Waitsfield, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info, 496-8994.

## health & fitness

**VINYASA FOR VERMONT** Locals limber up with area yoga teachers in a 90-minute class benefiting Hunger Free Vermont. A raffle follows. Maple Ballroom, Davis Center, UVM, Burlington, 9-11 a.m. $25, includes raffle ticket. Info, 864-9642.

## kids

**RABY ANIMAL DAY** Visitors of all ages fawn over little lambs, fluffy chicks and wide-eyed calves. Horse-drawn wagon rides, garden tours and themed activities add to the fun. Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Regular admission $3-12, free for kids under 3. Info, 457-2355.

**MUD SEASON EGG HUNT** Hop to it! Youngsters search for hidden treasures to add to their baskets, then head to Laughing Moon Chocolates in Stowe to meet the Easter Bunny. Green Mountain Club Headquarters, Waterbury Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info, 244-7037, ext. 115.

**OPEN TOT GYM & INFANT/PARENT PLAYTIME** Tykes work up an appetite for snacks with feats of athleticism. Gymnasium, Bellows Free Academy, Fairfax, 10-11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5421.

**PASTE PAPERS WORKSHOP** Budding artists ages 4 to 12 use different tools to make patterns and designs with this "goop" which, once dry, becomes decorative paper. Helen Day Art Center, Stowe, 9:30 a.m.-noon. $25, preregister; ages 5 and under must be accompanied by teen or adult. Info, 253-8358.

**SATURDAY NANODAYS** Budding scientific minds explore big ideas about minuscule atoms and molecules through hands-on activities and research presentations. FCHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Regular admission $9.50-12.50, free for ages 2 and under. Info, 877-324-6386, ext. 125.

**SATURDAY STORY TIME** Families celebrate the written word as imaginative tales are read aloud. Phoenix Books Burlington, 11 a.m. Free. Info, 448-3350.

**SWANTON TUMBLE TIME** Vivacious youngsters monkey around in an open gym. Mary Babcock Elementary School, Swanton, 9:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**VERMONT FAMILY FUN GOLF DAY** Kids and parents tee up and take a swing with themed activities and lessons from Vermont PGA members. Spartan Arena, Rutland, noon-4 p.m. Free. Info, 845-1907.

## music

**DEBO BAND** Vocalist Bruck Tesfaye fronts this 11-member Ethiopian pop band led by the skilled instrumentation of saxophonist Danny Mekonnen. Underscore Orkestra open. Haybarn Theatre, Goddard College, Plainfield, 8 p.m. $15-20. Info, 454-8311.

**SPRING SKI & RIDE KARAOKE** Singers don rock star-inspired costumes and belt out tunes of their choosing at this festive affair that hits all the right notes. Bolton Valley Resort, noon-1 p.m. $5. Info, 434-5804.

**THE MICHELE FAY TRIO** The local acoustic group gets toes tapping with a blend of folk, swing and bluegrass. Brandon Music Cafe, 7 p.m. $15-$30, includes dinner package; preregister. BYOB. Info, 465-4071.

## outdoors

**BIRD-MONITORING WALK** Experienced avian seekers lead participants on a morning stroll to locate various species in their natural habitats. Birds of Vermont Museum, Huntington, 8:30 a.m. Free; for adults and older children. Info, 434-2167.

## seminars

**INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT WORD WORKSHOP** Ted Horton offers an overview of the program's basic elements, including toolbars, icons, menus and text formatting. Fletcher Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 10-11 a.m. $3 suggested donation; preregister. Info, 865-7217.

**VCAM ACCESS ORIENTATION** Video-production hounds learn basic concepts and nomenclature at an overview of VCAM facilities, policies and procedures. VCAM Studio, Burlington, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info, 651-9692.

## sport

**SPRING SPECTACULAR TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT** Quick reflexes rule when participants paddle ping-pong balls back and forth at this annual Green Mountain Table Tennis Club event. Knights of Columbus, Rutland, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. $5-10, free for spectators; preregister. Info, 247-5913.

## talks

**TYLER ST. CYR** The education attorney explains special-education advocacy from a legal standpoint and offers parents strategies for communicating with school officials. 299 College St., Burlington, 1:30-2:45 p.m. Free; preregister at ts@tylerstcyr.net. Info, 578-9868.

## theater

**'4000 MILES'** See WED.27, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**'A STORY'S A STORY'** In her one-woman show, Deborah Lubar portrays two immigrants living in New York City who forge a close bond despite their differences. Proceeds benefit the Addison County Parent/Child Center. Town Hall Theater, Middlebury, 7:30 p.m. $20-30. Info, 382-9222.

**'ALICE IN WONDERLAND** See THU.28, 1 p.m.

**FRACTURED FAIRY TALES** See FRI.29, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**PIECEWORK: 'WHEN WE WERE FRENCH'** See THU.28, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**VERMONT NAS TALENT** Performers ages 8 to 24 showcase their knack for entertaining in brief acts. Proceeds benefit the Miss Vermont Scholarship Organization. Recital Hall, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 7 p.m. $5–15. Info 878-8487.

### *words*

**OAO X TRAN** The coeditor of *101 Changemakers: Rebels and Radicals Who Changed U.S. History* joins area professionals in a discussion of individuals whose actions shaped the country. Phoenix Books Burlington. 2 p.m. Free. Info 443-3350.

**FRIENDS OF BROWNELL BOOK SALE** See WED.27. 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**INTERNATIONAL BOOK CLUB** Fair trade enthusiasts discuss *Unbowed: A Memoir* by Kenyan writer Wangari Maathai — the first African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. Ten Thousand Villages, Burlington. 10 a.m.–noon. Free; preregister. Info 660-3349.

**SPRING BOOK SALE.** See WED.27. 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

## SUN.31

### *film*

**GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL.** See WED.27. 10 a.m.–9:45 p.m.

**'QUARTET'** See FRI.29. 1:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

**'WAR WITCH'** See FRI.29. 1:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

### *food & drink*

**EASTER IN THE BALLROOM** Maple-glazed ham adorns a buffet that includes beef, chicken and fish, along with scrumptious sides and palate-pleasing brunch offerings. Doubletree Hotel, South Burlington. 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m. $35.95; preregister. Info 660-7523.

**SUGAR-ON-SNOW PARTY** See SAT.30. noon–4 p.m.

### *health & fitness*

**LIGHT BODY SPIRITUAL MEDITATION GROUP** Cynthia Warwick Seller facilitates sessions designed to attune the mind, body and soul. Rainbow Institute, Burlington. 11 a.m. Donations. Info 671-4589.

### *language*

**FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP: DIMANCHES** *Parlez vous français?* Speakers practice the tongue at a casual drop-in chat. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 4–5:30 p.m. Free. Info 540-0135.

### *sport*

**ADULT PICKUP DODGEBALL.** Participants heave rubber-coated foam balls at opposing team members during weekly games. Robert Miller Community & Recreation Center, Burlington. 1–3 p.m. $5; for ages 15 and up; players under age 18 need parental permission. Info 578-6081.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CURLING CLUB** Players of all abilities sweep the ice every Sunday throughout the season. No special equipment is needed. Green Mountain Arena, Morrisville. 11 a.m.–1 p.m. $12 per game with membership; $16 per game otherwise. Info 399-2616.

**WOMEN'S PICKUP SOCCER** Quick-footed ladies of varying skill levels break a sweat while stringing together passes and making runs for the goal. Miller Community and Recreation Center, Burlington. 6–8 p.m. $3; for women ages 18 and up. Info 864-0123.

### *theater*

**4000 MILES** See WED.27. 2 p.m.

## MON.01

### *film*

**'QUARTET'** See FRI.29. 7:30 p.m.

**'WAR WITCH'** See FRI.29. 5:30 p.m.

**WRETCHES AND JABBERERS** Gerardine Wurzburg's 2011 documentary follows the international quest of two Vermont men with autism determined to change public attitudes about disability and intelligence. A Q&A with the cast and filmmaker follows. Bentley Hall, Johnson State College, 6 p.m. Free. Info 635-1408.

### *health & fitness*

**AVOID FALLS WITH IMPROVED STABILITY** See FRI.29. 10 a.m.

**HERBAL CONSULTATIONS** Betzy Bancroft, Larken Bunce, Guido Masé and students from the Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism evaluate individual constitutions and health conditions. City Market, Burlington. 4–7 p.m. Free; preregister at info@vtherbcenter.org. Info 861-9757.

### *kids*

**ALICE IN NOODLELAND** Youngsters get acquainted over crafts and play while new parents and expectant mothers chat with maternity nurse and lactation consultant Alice Gonyar. Buttered Noodles, Williston. 10–11 a.m. Free. Info 764-1810.

**MIDDLEBURY PRESCHOOL STORY TIME** See THU.28. 10:30–11:15 a.m.

**MUSIC WITH RAPHAEL** See THU.28. 10:45 a.m.

**RU12? RAINBOW READING HOUR** LGBTQA families come together for stories and activities. Bent Northrop Memorial Library, Fairfield. 6–7 p.m. Free. Info 860-7812; sam@ru12.org.

**SOUTH HERO PLAYGROUP** Free play, crafting and snacks entertain children and their grown-up companions. South Hero Congregational Church. 9:30–11 a.m. Free. Info 527-5426.

**STORIES WITH MEGAN** Preschoolers expand their imaginations through tales, songs and rhymes. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 11–11:30 a.m. Free. Info 865-7216.

**SWANTON PLAYGROUP** Kids and caregivers squeeze in quality time over imaginative play and snacks. Mary Babcock Elementary School, Swanton. 9:30–11 a.m. Free. Info 527-5426.

### *music*

**RECORDER PLAYING GROUP** Musicians produce early folk, baroque and swing jazz melodies. New and potential players welcome. Presto Music Store, South Burlington. 7:30–9:30 p.m. Free. Info 658-0030; info@prestomusic.net.

**SAMBATUCADA! OPEN REHEARSAL.** New players are welcome to pitch in as Burlington's samba street percussion band sharpens its tunes. Experience and instruments are not required. 9 Space Studio Collective, Burlington. 6–8:30 p.m. Free. Info 862-5017.

### *seminars*

**BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS** Community members enter the high-tech age and gain valuable knowledge. Tracy Hall, Norwich. 12:30–2:30 p.m. Free. Info 223-3403.

### *sport*

**ADULT DODGEBALL.** Grown-ups hit the court in weekly games and take aim with brightly colored foam balls. Orchard School, South Burlington. 7–9 p.m. $5. Info 598-8539.

### *talks*

**POLLY YOUNG-EISENDRATH** In "Manners and Respect: Close Encounters of an Unsatisfactory Kind," the parenting expert presents strategies for teaching children about mindfulness and community. Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School,

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Adamant Music School

QuarryWorks 2013 Season Auditions

**Two By Two**
Rehearsals begin **June 8**

**Aladdin**
Rehearsals begin **July 6**

**By Appointment Only!**
**Saturday, April 6** 10:00 am–5:00 pm
**Sunday, April 7** 1:00–5:00 pm
Auditions will be held at the Common in Adamant

**PERFORMANCE DATES**
Two By Two July 11-14 & 18-21
Aladdin July 27-28 & Aug. 3-4

802-229-6578 / quarryworks@adamant.org




HowardCenter

HowardCenter is pleased to host clinical psychologist and author Dr. Robert Brooks.

**The Power of Mindsets: Nurturing Motivation, Hope and Resilience in Children**
Thursday, April 18, 2013
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Majestic Theater, Williston

This seminar is designed for educators, administrators, mental health clinicians, and social workers.

Registration required: to download a registration form, visit www.howardcenter.org or contact Ptarmigan Abbott at 802-488-6706.

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Library, South Burlington. 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 652-7102.

### words

**ELLEN BRYANT VOIGT** Vermont's former poet laureate kicks off PoemCity 2013 with a reading of her work. A Q&A follows. Vermont Statehouse, House Chamber, Montpelier. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

**SNARED MOMENTS OPEN MIC** Recilie Hamrell hosts an evening of spontaneously told true tales about pivotal life events. Unitarian Church, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. Donations. Info, 863-1754.

**SPRING BOOK SALE** See WED.27. 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

## TUE.02

### agriculture

**TREE-KEEPER TRAINING** Green thumbs looking to lend their skills to Branch Out Burlington! Learn how to care for the program's saplings. Parks and Recreation Department Building, Burlington. 6–8 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 658-0472, mfwaldron@outlook.com.

### community

**READING WITH FROSTY & FRIENDS THERAPY DOGS** Animal lovers bring a book and read to canines who comfort. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 3:30–4:30 p.m. Free; preregister for 10-minute individual sessions. Info, 878-4918.

### crafts

**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY QUILTERS' GUILD MEETING** Pattern makers welcome author and award-winning fiber artist Susan Brubaker Knapp, who presents "The Artist In You." Essex Alliance Church. 7 p.m. $5; free for members. Info, 846-7362.

### dance

**"BALLET'S GREATEST HITS"** Documentary footage of the recent Youth America Grand Prix features members of the world's leading dance companies performing excerpts of *Swan Lake*, *Giselle* and others. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 7 p.m. $6.18. Info, 748-2600.

**BALLROOM DANCE CLASS** Instructor Samir Elabd demonstrates the foxtrot and Latin line dancing, then helps students break down the steps. Union Elementary School, Montpelier. foxtrot, 6–7 p.m.; line dancing, 7–8 p.m. $14. Info, 223-2921, elabd@comcast.net.

**SWING DANCE PRACTICE SESSION** Quick-footed participants get moving in different styles, such as the lindy hop, charleston and balboa. Indoor shoes required. Champlain Club, Burlington. 7:30–9:30 p.m. $5. Info, 448-2930.

### film

**"A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC"** Elizabeth Taylor stars in Harold Prince's 1977 musical about the comedic twists and turns love takes when things get complicated. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 1:30 p.m. Free. Info, 748-2600.

**QUARTET** See FRI.29. 7:30 p.m.

**"WAR WITCH"** See FRI.29. 5:30 p.m.

### health & fitness

**LAUGHTER YOGA** What's so funny? Giggles burst out as gentle aerobic exercise and yogic breathing meet unconditional laughter to enhance physical, emotional and spiritual health and well-being. Miller Community and Recreation Center, Burlington. 5 p.m. Free. Info, 355-5129.

### kids

**CREATIVE TUESDAYS** Artists engage their imaginations with recycled crafts. Kids under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 3–5 p.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

**FAIRFAX STORY HOUR** Good listeners up to age 6 are rewarded with tales, crafts and activities. Fairfax Community Library. 9:30–10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 849-2420.

**GEORGIA PLAYGROUP** Stories, songs and crafts offer an intermission to free play. Georgia Elementary & Middle School, St. Albans. 9–11 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**HIGHGATE STORY HOUR** See WED.27. 10–11 a.m.

**PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR** Three- to 5-year-olds keep their hands busy with crafts at tale time. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 11 a.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

**RICHFORD PLAYGROUP** Rug rats let their hair down for tales and activities. Cornerstone Bridges to Life Community Center, Richford, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**SCIENCE & STORIES: FROGS & POLLIWOGS** Why do these amphibians croak at dusk? Little ones learn about the new cycles of life that accompany spring. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington. 11 a.m. Free with admission: $9.50–12.50. Info, 877-324-6386.

**STORY TIME WITH COREY** Read-aloud tales and crafts led by store employee Corey Bushey expand the imaginations of young minds. Buttered Noodles, Williston. 10 a.m. Free. Info, 764-1410.

**STUDENT MATINEE SERIES: MY HEART IN A SUITCASE** ArtsPower adapts Anne L. Fox's book about her journey as one of 10,000 children who fled Nazi rule via the *Kindertransport* rescue mission. Flynn MainStage, Burlington. 9 a.m. & noon. $8; for grades 4 to 8 and 6 to 10. Info, 863-5966.

### language

**FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP** Beginner to intermediate French speakers brush up on their linguistics — *en français*. Halvorson's Uptstreet Café, Burlington. 4:30–5 p.m. Free. Info, 540-0155.

**PAUSE-CAFÉ FRENCH CONVERSATION** Francophiles of all levels speak the country's language at a drop-in conversation. Mr. Crêpe, Burlington. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 540-0195.

### music

**UVM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WITH CAROLINE CONNOLLY, ELIZABETH OEOMAN & TEODY NINN** The 2013 UVM Concerto Competition winners — a flutist, clarinetist and pianist respectively — perform works by Carl Reinecke, Mozart and Dmitri Shostakovich. UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus, Burlington. 7:30–9 p.m. Free. Info, 656-7776.

### outdoors

**EMERGING PLANTS, RETURNING BIRDS** Herbalist Annie McCleary and naturalist George Lisi celebrate the changing seasons on an early-spring nature walk. Wisdom of the Herbs School, Woodbury. 8–7:30 p.m. $1–10; preregister. Info, 456-8122.

### seminars

**BEGINNER COMPUTER CLASS** Tom Barber leads participants through the basics of internet browsing, email and more. Fairfax Community Library. 2:45–4:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 849-2420.

**FLOWER ESSENCES FOR JOY WORKSHOP** Certified flower essence practitioner Fearn Lickfield explains the science behind botanical decoctions and helps folks create individualized blends. Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism, Montpelier. 6–9 p.m. $15–17. Includes materials; preregister. Info, 224-7100.

**WILDLIFE-TRACKING WORKSHOP** Environmental educator John Jose teaches participants how to identify local mammals, beginning with plaster casts of their tracks. Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier. 6:30–7:30 p.m. $10–12; preregister. Info, 223-9000 ext. 202.

### talks

**JAN ALBERS** In "Lake Champlain in Under an Hour," the author and Sheldon Museum director presents a condensed history of the body of water, beginning with its salt-water origins. Brownell Library, Essex Junction. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 878-6955.

**SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE LECTURE SERIES** Emmy Award–winning writer/producer Rob LaZebnik shares insights from a career of comedic creation, which includes HBO's "Not Necessarily the News" and his current position at The Simpsons. Perry Hall, Champlain College, Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 865-6480.

### words

**CADY/POTTER WRITERS CIRCLE** Literary enthusiasts improve their craft through "homework" assignments, journaling exercises, reading sharing and occasional book discussions. Tisley Public Library, Middlebury. 10 a.m.–noon. Free. Info, 349-5970.

**FROZEN SOLID BOOK LAUNCH** Mystery lovers convene to celebrate local author James Taber's suspenseful tale set in the South Pole. Phoenix Books Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 448-3350.

**JACOB FRICKE** The former poet laureate of Belfast, Maine, shares stanzas from *This Book of Poems You Found*. Room 315, St. Edmund's Hall, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 4 p.m. Free. Info, 654-2536.

**SPRING BOOK SALE** See WED.27. 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

## WED.03

### comedy

**IMPROV NIGHT** See WED.27. 8–10 p.m.

### community

**WINOOSKI COALITION FOR A SAFE AND PEACEFUL COMMUNITY** Neighbors and local businesses help create a thriving Onion City by weighing in on public health and civic engagement initiatives. O'Brien Community Center, Winooski. 6–7 p.m. Free. Info, 655-4565.

### conferences

**VERMONT TRAVEL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE** Area professionals attend workshops, lectures and a keynote address from author and social-media strategist Jay Baer who outlines ways to success fully utilize online tools. Stoweflake Mountain Resort & Spa, Stowe. 9 a.m.–9 p.m. $55–275; see vtic.org for details. Info, 865-5202.

### crafts

**MAKE STUFF!** See WED.27. 6–8 p.m.

### film

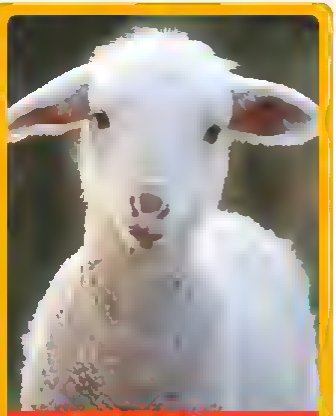
**"BULLY"** In this intimate documentary–award-winning filmmaker Lee Hirsch follows five children and their families who are affected by the this abusive social behavior. Dana Auditorium, Sunderland Language Center, Middlebury College. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 443-5013.

**QUARTET** See FRI.25. 1:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

PARENTS PICK

**Baby Boom**

As the old proverb goes, "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." That last part is certainly true at Billings Farm & Museum. Like clockwork, each spring brings the working dairy farm a new crop of cute, cuddly farm creatures. Visiting families meet the lambs and chicks and calves — oh my! — at **BABY ANIMAL DAY**. Once they've oohed and awwed, kids can hop a horse-drawn wagon ride around the grounds, make a pom-pom chick craft or learn about seed planting in the heirloom gardens.



**BABY ANIMAL DAY: Saturday, March 30, 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m., at Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock. All ages. Regular museum admission, $3–12; free for kids under 3. Info, 457-2355, billingsfarm.org.**

ALL NEW! Have you seen our new mobile site at **kidsvt.com?**

Easily browse and get info on nearby events!

VT kids

facebook.com/kidsvt twitter.com/kidsvt pinterest/kidsvt

**WAR WITCH** See FRI.29. 1:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

### games

**BURLINGTON GO CLUB** See WED.27. 7–9 p.m.

### health & fitness

**GUIDED MEDITATION** See WED.27. 5:30–7 p.m.

### kids

**ENDSBURG PLAYGROUP** See WED.27. 10–11:30 a.m.

**FAIRFIELD PLAYGROUP** See WED.27. 10–11:30 a.m.

**HIGHGATE STORY HOUR** See WED.27. 11:15 a.m.

**MAY'S WORLD MUSIC & MOVEMENT** See WED.27. 10:30–11:15 a.m.

**MOVING & GROOVING WITH CHRISTINE** See WED.27. 11–11:30 a.m.

**MY FIRST YOGA.** Toddler-friendly poses led by Rachel Klatzer meet storytelling and song in this program for ages 5 and under. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. 10:30–11:15 a.m. Free. Info, 388-4097.

**PRESCHOOL DISCOVERY PROGRAM: FEATHERS FLYING** Little learners look and listen for signs of birds making their seasonal migration north. North Branch Nature Center, Montpelier. 10–11:30 a.m. $5. 8. Info, 229-6206.

**RICHFORD PAJAMA STORY TIME** Kids up to age 6 wear their jammies for evening tales. Arvin A. Brown Library, Richford. 4–5 p.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

**ST. ALBANS PLAYGROUP** See WED.27. 9:30–11:30 a.m.

**STORY TIME & PLAYGROUP** See WED.27. 10–11:30 a.m.

**YOUTH MEDIA LAB** See WED.27. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

### music

**EMERSON STRING QUARTET** The internationally acclaimed group plays energetic interpretations of selected works by Schumann, Dvořák and Grieg. See calendar spotlight. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 7 p.m. $10–40. Info, 603-646-2422.

**LOS ANDELES GUITAR QUARTET** For more than 30 years, this Grammy Award–winning foursome has dazzled audiences worldwide with a repertoire ranging from Bach to bluegrass. UVM Recital Hall, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $15–30. Info, 863-5966.

**THE STARRY MOUNTAIN SINGERS** Multipart harmonies fill the air when this ensemble of eight vocalists performs traditional music from Bulgaria, Corsica, Georgia and the U.S. Ira Allen Chapel, UVM, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $12 suggested donation. Info, 734-8940.

**VERMONT YOUTH WINDS CONCERT** The brass, flute, clarinet, saxophone and percussion groups welcome spring with a spirited performance. Elley Long Music Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 5–6 p.m. Free. Info, 655-5030.

### seminars

**TECH HELP** See WED.27. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

### sport

**GREEN MOUNTAIN TABLE TENNIS CLUB** See WED.27. 7–10 p.m.

### talks

**BARBARA WILL.** The Dartmouth College professor discusses the creative forces behind the birth of modernism in "Literary Paris: The 1920s in the City of Light." Rutland Free Library, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 773-1860.

**GLENN ANDRES.** In "Recognizing Vermont's Built Treasures," the Middlebury College professor considers the cultural and historical significance of the state's architectural gems. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

**OREG GAUSE.** The UVM political science professor considers how increasing unrest in the Middle East creates a perception of declining American power in the region. Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 334-7902.

**JANE CARROLL.** Checkmate! The Dartmouth professor examines how chess functioned as a status symbol, an allegorical battle and a means of flirtation for medieval players. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 388-4095.

**JEAN GUENTHER.** Drawing on nearly 40 years of experience, the founder of the Vermont Center for Psychosynthesis introduces attendees to this unique healing process, which integrates all aspects of the self. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 598-6014.

**SANDOR KATZ.** The bestselling author of *Wild Fermentation* discusses the health benefits of this ancient practice, as related to local and global food systems. Simpson Hall, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common. 6:30 p.m. Info, 443-864-0514.

**SARAH REDFIELD.** The University of New Hampshire law professor outlines the constitutional and real-life issues associated with sexting and cyberbullying. St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 748-8291.

**ZIRKA FILIPCZAK.** In "Rembrandt: Emotion Through Pose and Gesture," the Williams College professor examines the artist's ability to depict a range of human feelings. Congregational Church, Norwich, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 649-1164.

### words

**BURLINGTON WRITERS WORKSHOP MEETING** See WED.27. 6:30–7:30 p.m.

**MARK REDMOND.** The director of Spectrum Youth & Family Services shares the power of real-life tales in "Story Crafter: Using Stories to Create Social Change." Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

**NANCY STEARNS BERCAW.** The local author reads and discusses her memoir *Brain in a Jar: A Daughter's Journey Through Her Father's Memory*, which deals with familial reactions to Alzheimer's disease. The Arbors at Shelburne, 6 p.m. Free. Info, 985-8600 ext. 108.

**ONION RIVER REVIEW RELEASE PARTY.** Lovers of literature and visual art celebrate the 40th anniversary issue of the literary journal produced by St. Michael's College. Hoehl Welcome Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester, 5 p.m. Free. Info, 654-2536.

**SPRING BOOK SALE** See WED.27. 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

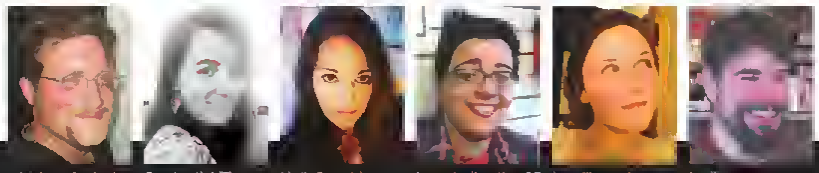
**SYDNEY LEA.** Vermont's poet laureate discusses how his love of the natural world informs his creative process. Bradford Public Library, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 222-4536. ⓘ



# See who's single.

Browse local profiles in Seven Days Personals. It's a trusted, local online community powered by the readers of Vermont's largest weekly newspaper. Whether you're looking for friendship, love or hook-ups, our **2000+ members** are local and ready to meet up. You already have something in common with all these folks — you read *Seven Days*!

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# classes

THE FOLLOWING CLASS LISTINGS ARE PAID ADVERTISEMENTS. ANNOUNCE YOUR CLASS FOR AS LITTLE AS **$13.75/WEEK** (INCLUDES SIX PHOTOS AND UNLIMITED DESCRIPTION ONLINE). SUBMIT YOUR CLASS AD AT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/POSTCLASS**.

## acting

**BEGINNERS MEISNER TECHNIQUE** June 22, 23, 29, 30, noon–5 p.m. Cost: $225/4 5-hr. classes. Location: Writers' Barn, 233 Falls Rd., Shelburne. **Acting Workshops by Carole Zucker** 425-4936. info@actingworkshops.info. Stand up for yourself, be who you really are, lose self-consciousness! The workshop is designed to develop the actor's imagination, flexibility and focus. The course is based on the Meisner Technique as taught at the Neighborhood Playhouse, considered one of the finest acting schools in the U.S. Instructor Carole Zucker studied at the Playhouse and HB Studios in NYC and taught private acting workshops in Montreal since the 1990s and recently at the Flynn and Off Center.

## art

**ART & POTTERY IN MIDDLEBURY.** Location: Middlebury Studio School, 1 Mill St., Middlebury. Barbara Nelson, 247-3702, ewaldewald@aol.com, middleburystudioschool.org. Adult: Tue. Watercolors: Wed., 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Int./Adv. Oils: Wed., 1–4 p.m. Wheel: Thu., 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Hand Building: Color Workshop for Oils: Apr. 13. Digital Photography: Mon., 1–4 p.m. Oils: Children's: Paper-Mâché: 4th–6th: Mon. & Wed. Wheel: Thu. Hand Building: Home School Pottery: Apr. 5. Home School Art: Apr. 19. Vacation Wheel and Hand Building: Vacation Nature Art.

**MODERN GOO/GODDESS CANVAS CLASS.** Apr. 6, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Cost: $95/person. Location: Vintage Inspired Lifestyle Marketplace, 180 Flynn Ave., Burlington. 488-5766, info@vintageinspired.net. vintageinspired.net. This class is modeled after Renee Savoies Modern Goddess series, which celebrates discovering your inner child to reveal the true god/goddess that lies within. All materials will be provided, but students should bring if they have available: a heat gun, favorite paint brushes, old photos or ephemera, images that truly speak to you, favorite acrylics and an answer to the questions "What did you want to be when you grew up?" or "What made you truly happy as a child?"

## burlington city arts

BCA
BURLINGTONCITYARTS

*Call 865-7166 for info or register online at burlingtoncityarts.org. Teacher bios are also available online.*

**CLAY: AFTERNOON WHEEL THROWING.** Apr. 11–May. 30, 12:30–3 p.m., Weekly on Thu. Cost: $216/BCA members, $240/nonmembers. Clay sold separately at $20 per 25-lb. bag; glazes & tinings incl. Location: BCA Clay Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. This new eight-week class is an introduction to clay pottery and the ceramics studio. Learn basic throwing and forming techniques while creating functional pieces such as mugs, vases and bowls. Learn various finishing techniques using the studio's house slips and glazes. No previous experience needed! Class includes over 30 hours per week of open studio time to practice.

**CLAY: INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED WHEEL.** Apr. 11–May. 30, 9:30 a.m.–noon, Weekly on Thu. Cost: $252/BCA members, $280/nonmembers. Location: BCA Clay Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. Local pottery artist Jeremy Ayers will help you refine your wheelwork in this morning class for intermediate and advanced potters. The class can be tailored to students continuing from Intermediate Wheel or for new students. Demonstrations and instruction will cover intermediate throwing, trimming, decorative and glazing methods. Students should be proficient in centering and throwing. Over 30 hours per week of open studio space time included.

**CLAY: WHEEL THROWING II.** Apr. 11–May. 30, 6–8:30 p.m. Cost: $216/BCA members, $240/nonmembers. Clay sold separately at $20 per 25-lb. bag; glazes & firings incl. Location: BCA Clay Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. In this class, designed for those with some wheel experience, students will learn individualized tips for advancement on the wheel. Demonstrations and instruction will cover intermediate throwing, beginning to intermediate trimming, and glazing techniques. Individual projects will be encouraged. Students must be proficient in centering and throwing. Over 30 hours per week of open studio time included.

**PAINTING: ABSTRACT.** Weekly on Tue., Apr. 9–May. 21, 6:30–9 p.m. No class Apr. 23. Cost: $162/BCA members, $180/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington. Students will be guided to explore the many exciting possibilities of abstract painting. Using the paint of their choice, students will be encouraged to experiment and try adding other mixed media as well. Bring in some ideas or reference materials to use as a starting place. BCA provides glass palettes, easels, painting trays and drying racks. Instructor: Lisa Jones.

**PAINTING: WATERCOLOR.** Apr. 10–May. 29, 6:30–8:30 p.m., Weekly on Wed. Cost: $176/BCA members, $195/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington. Learn how to paint with watercolor. This class will focus on observational painting from still life, figure, landscape and photos. Students paint on watercolor paper and gain experience with composition, color theory, layering, light and shade. Class may move outdoors to paint en plein air on nice days! Instructor: Marc Nadel.

**PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR ARTWORK.** Apr. 17, 6–9 p.m. Cost: $13/BCA members, $16/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, 2nd floor, Burlington. Professional photographer Michelle Saffran and BCA art director Ted Olson will demonstrate techniques for lighting, setting up backgrounds and achieving the correct color in the photos of your artwork. Also, get tips on how to properly upload and save images onto the computer and about photo file sizes. Please bring your SLR or digital camera for the class. Knowledge of camera basics is required.

**PRINT: SILKSCREENING T-SHIRT DESIGN.** Apr. 11–May. 30, 6–8:30 p.m., Weekly on Thu. Cost: $207/BCA members, $230/nonmembers. Location: BCA Print Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. Wow your friends with your personally designed T-shirts! Local silkscreen legend, Torrey Valyou, co-owner of New Duds, will show you how to design and print T-shirts just like a professional. Learn a variety of techniques for transferring and printing images using hand-drawn, photographic or borrowed imagery. Cost includes over 25 hours per week of open studio hours. No experience necessary! Some materials are included.

**PRINT: WOODCUT.** Apr. 17–May. 22, 6–8:30 p.m., Weekly on Wed. Cost: $162/BCA members, $180/nonmembers. Location: BCA Print Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. With local print making expert Gregg Blasdel, discover the unique process of woodblock printing during this 6-week long introductory class. Learn fundamental techniques and characteristics of relief woodblock printing. Explore the use of multiple colors and other creative possibilities for printing your design. Cost includes use of open studio hours for class work. Materials provided, except cost of paper.

## camps

**AFRICAN ART & FRENCH SPRING BREAK CAMP.** Apr. 22–26, 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Cost: $300/1-wk. camp. Location: wingspan Studio, 4A Howard St., 3rd floor, Burlington. wingspan Studio. Maggie Standley, 233-7676, maggiestandley@yahoo.com, 4A Howard St., 3rd Fl. Make art & learn French in this Spring Break Vacation Camp extraordinaire! Do you know how many countries are in this diverse, rich continent? We'll explore cultures, creatures, music and geography through projects such as watercolors, acrylic painting, mud cloth creation, music making & more!

**TEEN RETREAT.** Apr. 19–21. Location: Karme Choling, Barnet. 633-2384, karmecholing.org. Are you ready to explore the teenage jungle of awareness and warriorship while awakening your heart in the awesome company of peers? Try a weekend teen retreat in the beautiful hills of Barnet at Karme Choling Shambhala Meditation Center. Scholarships available.

## communication

**CREATING PEACE BY LEARNING THE LANGUAGE OF LIFE: A NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION SEMINAR.** Apr. 6, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Cost: $90/person. Full/partial scholarships avail. Application required. Bring brown bag lunch. Location: The Peace & Justice Center, 60 Lake St., Burlington. Kyle, 863-2345 x6, kyle@pjcvt.org. If you wish you could find more peace within yourself or have more energy and skills to make peace with people you love and people you don't, this seminar is for you. This interactive day will give you the opportunity to develop valuable skills to make life easier and more enjoyable.

## computers

**INTRO TO HTML/CSS.** Apr. 13 & Apr. 20, 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Cost: $72/8-hr. class. Location: Office Squared, 77 College Street (Champlain St. entrance), Burlington. Girl Develop It Burlington. Maureen McElaney, maureen@girldevelopit.com, http://meetup.com/Girl-Develop-It-Burlington/. Learn to build your own website! Learn how to better control the one you've got! No prior web-design experience necessary. RSVP required. This 8-hour workshop spans two consecutive Saturdays! Girl Develop It Burlington is on a mission to provide affordable web-design courses for women.



## cooking

**ACCESS CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL.** Apr. 10, 6–8:30 p.m. Cost: $35/person. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from Exit 12, Hinesburg. 482-7194, access@cvuhs.org, cvuweb.cvuhs.org/access/. Vietnamese cuisine w/ Lauren Gammon. Vietnam, in her sublime beauty, offers a cuisine of contrasting textures, aromatic herbs and deep savory flavors that light up the palette. Renew your dining experience at home by bringing three refreshing recipes to table. While exploring the culinary trends that weave this cuisine into fruition. Menu: Shrimp and Rice Vermicelli Bowl, Beef Wrapped in Vietnamese Leaf, Daikon and Carrot Quick Pickle. Limit 16.

## dance

**ARGENTINE TANGO FOR BEGINNERS.** Apr. 10–May. 1, 7–8 p.m., Weekly on Wed. Cost: $48/4 1-hr. classes. Location: North End Studio B, 294 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington. In collaboration with Queen City Tango. Elizabeth Seyler, 862-2833, eseyler@temple.edu. Improvise, express yourself, collaborate, play! If you can walk, you can tango. Learn the basics in a friendly, welcoming environment for all ages. Instructor Elizabeth Seyler, PhD, welcomes all levels and ages in her playful, engaging classes. No partner or experience necessary. Register online or at the first class.

**DANCE STUDIO SALSALINA.** Location: 266 Pine St., Burlington, Victoria, 598-1077, info@salsalina.com. Salsa classes, nightclub style on one and on two, group and private, four levels. Beginner walk-in classes, Wednesdays, 6 p.m., $13/person for one-hour class. No dance experience, partner or preregistration required; just the desire to have fun! Drop in any time and prepare for an enjoyable workout!

**OSANTOS VT SALSA.** Mon. evenings, beginner class 7:8 p.m., intermediate 8:15–9:15 p.m. Cost: $10/1-hr. class. Location: Movement Studio, 180 Flynn Ave., Burlington. Tyler Crandall, 598-9204, crandalltyler@hotmail.com, dsantosvt.com. Experience the fun and excitement of Burlington's eclectic dance community by learning salsa. Trained by world-famous dancer Manuel Dos Santos, we teach you how to dance to the music and how to have a great time on the dance floor! There is no better time to start than now!

**LEARN TO DANCE W/ A PARTNER!** Cost: $50/4-wk. class. Location: Champlain Club, 20 Crowley St., Burlington. Lessons also available in St. Albans. First Step Dance, 598-6757, kevin@firststepdance.com, FirstStepDance.com. Come alone or come with friends but come out and learn to dance! Beginning classes repeat each month but intermediate classes vary from month to month. As with all of our programs, every one's encouraged to attend, and no partner is necessary.

**SWING DANCE LESSONS.** Apr. 9–May. 14, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Cost: $50/6 wk. session. Location: The Champlain Club, 20 Crowley St., Burlington, Vermont. Swings Michael Boucher, 448-2830, vtswings@gmail.com, vermontswings.com. Learn to swing dance in a fun, low pressure, supportive environment. No partner necessary! Bring clean shoes and a willingness to have fun! Includes admission to open practice session immediately after.

DRUMMING » P.58

# classes

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## drumming

**TAIKO DJEMBE, CONGAS & BATA!** Location: Burlington Taiko Space, 208 Flynn Ave., suite 3-G, Burlington. Stuart Paton, 899-4255, spaton55@gmail.com. Taiko in Burlington! Tuesday Taiko adult classes begin Apr 30, Jun 18, Sept 10, Oct. 22 & Dec. 3, 5:30-6:20 p.m. $72/6 weeks. Kids classes begin the same dates, 4:30-5:20 p.m. $60/6 weeks. Conga and Djembe Friday classes start Apr. 5, May 3, Jun. 14, Jul. 12 & Aug. 2, 5 p.m. & 6 p.m. $15/class. Montpelier Conga class start Apr. 4, May 2, Jun. 20 & Jul. 18, 9:30-10:30 a.m. $60/4 weeks. Montpelier Djembe classes start Apr. 4 at Guitar Sams, 7 & 8:30 p.m. $54/3 weeks!

## fiber & surface design

**ACCESS CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL.** 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from Exit 12, Hinesburg. 482-7194, access@cvuhs.org, cvuweb.cvuhs.org/access/. Needle Felt a 3-D Owl w/ Annette Hansen. Wed., Apr. 10, 6-9 p.m. Learn the techniques of basic 3-D needle felting in this 3-hour class. You'll be able to give your owl lots of personality! This is a great class for all ages. All materials provided. $40 limit 12. Paint with Wool and a Felted Needle w/ Annette. Wed., Apr. 17, 6-8 p.m. Fee: $45, limit of 12. Senior discount.



## flynn arts

FLYNNARTS

**MUSIC TOGETHER.** Apr. 1-Jun. 11. Session D: Mon., 9:30-10:15 a.m. or Session F: Tue., 9:30-10:15 a.m. Cost: $105/10 wks. + $39 materials fee ($144 total). CD & book are new for each fall, winter & spring session. $50 for each additional sibling. Location: Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St., Burlington. 652-4500. Music Together® is a music and movement curriculum based on research that shows children learn best from active caregivers and a non-performance based musical environment. Families receive a songbook and CDs with the music learned in class so you can continue nurturing your child's imaginative growth at home.

## gardening

**MAGIC OF FRUIT TREES.** Apr. 6, 9:30-11 a.m. Cost: $10/person. Location: Gardener's Supply, Burlington. 660-3505. Fruit trees make a bountiful and delicious addition to your landscape. Learn how to choose the right one for your space and taste. The pruning seminar is an ideal companion.

**PROTECT YOUR GARDEN.** Mar. 30, 9:30-11 a.m. Cost: $10/person. Location: Gardener's Supply, Burlington. 660-3505. Charlie Nardozzi will teach you how to safeguard your garden from deer, woodchucks, rabbits and other furry foes!

**PRUNING 101.** Apr. 6, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost: $10/person. Location: Gardener's Supply, Burlington. 660-3505. Learn about the proper equipment, timing and techniques to care for your trees and shrubs. Weather permitting, we'll do a hands-on demo outside. Space limit: 40 people.

## healing

**SELF-CARE FOR SENSITIVE PEOPLE — THE BASICS AND MORE.** Apr. 6, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost: $35/person. Location: 55 Claver Ln., Waterbury. Sue, 244-7909. Learn how to stay balanced and happy through good self-care practices that have a proven track record of success. Led by Cornelia Ward, consultant and teacher.

## health

**NUTRITION TELECLASSES.** Mar. 7, 28, 12-1 p.m., Weekly on Thu. Cost: $15/per class or $50 for all four. Location: Via conference call from your home or office. Your own hometown Transformation One: Mariella Devost, 735-1348, mdevost@transformationone.com. Four one-hour teleclasses on nutrition, sugar and carb addiction, fats that heal, fats that kill, detoxification and eating whole—not that. Recipes, easy tips and tools for health are included. Facilitated via conference call so you can be anywhere.

**SPRING CLEANING YOUR HEALTH.** Apr. 27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: $195/daylong retreat & 3 coaching sessions. Location: Dharma Dear Retreat Center. Unfrehill Trail to Wellness LLC, Susan Whitman, 923-6070, susan@trailtowellness.com, trailtowellness.com. Clear out the parts of your life that aren't serving you and make room for the person you were meant to be. A day of mindfulness, movement, motivation and an interactive cooking hour. Leave inspired, thoughtful and ready to walk your own path to a healthier and more fulfilling life.

## helen day art center

**BASKETWEAVING.** Apr. 6, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Cost: $125/person. Location: Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St., Stowe. 253-8358, education@helenday.com, helenday.com. Learn how to weave a simple basket using all-natural weavers and spokes. Basket weaving is a long-standing tradition shared by cultures throughout the world. The variety of construction allows for endless possibilities in creating beautiful and useful objects. Weaving provides both a means of creating a unique expression and also a way to connect with tradition and craft in a meaningful way. Materials included. Instructed by Linda Lomasney.

**MOODS IN THE LANDSCAPE.** Apr. 3-24, 1:30-3 p.m., Weekly on Wed. Cost: $40. Location: Helen Day Art Center, Stowe. 253-8358, education@helenday.com, helenday.com. This lecture series and field walk shall take a critical look at the landscape and the moods that can be attributed to flora, site and season. The natural and designed landscape shall be discussed and viewed through images produced over a 50-year period. Emphasis on the natural landscape and selective subtraction will be the thesis.

**INTUITIVE PAINTING.** Mar. 31, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost: $50/person. Location: Helen Day Art Center, Stowe. 253-8358, education@helenday.com, helenday.com. A creative painting adventure focused on the spirit of play and discovery. This will be a time to connect with your creative self and intuitively express yourself through gesture and colors. Working with gouache and acrylic paint, students will be lead through a spontaneous process of discovery and experimentation. No prior painting experience is required.

## herbs

**INTERMEDIATE HERBAL PROGRAM.** May 5-Sep. 29, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., 2 Sun. monthly. Cost: $1,200/person, incl. all books & supplies. Location: Horsetail Herbs/Kelley Bible, 134 Manley Rd., Milton. 893-0521, htherbs@comcast.net, horsetailherbs.org. Ten days through summer formulating, harvesting & preparing plants for medicinal use. Will focus on supporting body systems with our formulations. Projects will include advanced tinctures, tonics, salves, soaps, glycerites, creams, butters, capsules, oils, flower essences, syrups and therapy liniments. Incense, chocolate and more. VSAC grant opportunities.

**WISDOM OF THE HERBS SCHOOL.** Open house: Sat., Mar. 23, 1-3 p.m., at the Tulsi Tea Room, 34 Elm St., Montpelier. Emerging Plants, Returning Birds, Early Spring Nature Walk, Tue., Apr. 2, 6-7:30 p.m. Sliding scale $0-10, please preregister. Now accepting applications for Wisdom Eight-Month Certification Program, Apr. 20-21, May 18-19, Jun. 15-16, Jul. 13-14, Aug. 10-11, Sep. 7-8, Oct. 5-6 & Nov. 2-3. Tuition: $1,750, nonrefundable deposit: $250, payment plan: $187.50/mo. Applications for Wild Edibles spring term, Apr. 28, May 26, Jun. 23. Tuition: $300. VSAC and degree grants available. Location: Wisdom of the Herbs School, Woodbury. 456-8122, anne@wisdomoftheherbsschool.com, wisdomoftheherbsschool.com. Earth skills for changing times. Exponential programs embracing local wild edible and medicinal plants, food as first medicine, sustainable living skills and the inner journey. Annie McCleary, director and George Lisi, naturalist.

## language

**ANNOUNCING SPANISH CLASSES.** Beginning wk. of Apr. 9-11 for 10 wks. Location: Spanish In Waterbury Center. 585-1025, spanishinparavas@gmail.com, spanishwaterburycenter.com. Join us for adult Spanish classes this spring. Our sixth year. Learn from a native speaker via small classes, individual instruction or student tutoring. You'll always be participating and speaking. Lesson packages for travelers. Also lessons for young children they love it! See our website or contact us for details.

**ADULT FRENCH CLASSES AND AFRICAN ARTS/FRENCH SPRING BREAK CAMP.** Spring-session an Adult Group French Adv. Beg. & Int. starts Apr. 9. Youth Spring Break African Art/Language Vaca Camp, Apr. 22-26. Location: wingspan Studio, 4A Haward St. 3rd flaar, Burlington. wingspan Studio, Maggie Standley, 233-7676, maggiestandley@yahoo.com, wingspanpaintingstudio.com. French, art and more for preschoolers, youth and adults in a beautiful atelier! Through multiple learning modalities you will cultivate confidence in a supportive, fun, beautiful space. Madame Maggie is a fluent French speaker is an encouraging and patient instructor and has lived/worked in Paris, France and Yaounde, Cameroon. Allons-y!

## martial arts

**AIKIDO.** Adult introductory classes begin on Tue., Apr. 2 at 5:30 p.m. Location: Aikido at Champlain Valley, 257 Pine St. (across from Conant Metal & Light), Burlington. 551-8300, burlingtonaikido.org. This Japanese martial art is a great method to get in shape and relieve stress. Classes for adults, teens and children. We also offer morning classes for new students. Study with Benjamin Pincus-Sensei, 6th degree black belt and Vermont's only fully certified Aikido teacher. Visitors are always welcome.

**AIKIDO CLASSES.** 4 wk. Intro Class for Women starts Mar. 14. To register, email aikidalnitreclass@gmail.com. Location: Vermont Aikikai, 274 N. Winooski Ave. (2nd floor), Burlington, Vermont. Aikikai, 862-9785, vermontaikido.org. Aikido trains body and spirit, promoting flexibility and strong center within, flowing movement, martial sensibility with compassionate presence, respect for others, and confidence in oneself.

**KARATE CLASS FOR WOMEN.** Mar. 16-Apr. 6, 12-1:10 p.m., Weekly on Sat. Cost: $15/payable in cash or by check. Location: Artemis Fitness, 7 Fayette Dr. #2, South Burlington. One Heart Karate: Veranika Travis, 399-7492, veranika@oneheartkaratevt.com, http://oneheartkaratevt.com/. Relieve stress, feel stronger and have a great time learning Isshin Ryu Karate. Instructor Veronika Trav's brings 25 years of martial arts and mindfulness study to the practice. The class is non-competitive, and all participants are encouraged to discover the strength and calm they can bring to everyday challenges.

**NINJUTSU MARTIAL ARTS CLASS.** Mar. 13, 6-8 p.m., Weekly on Wed. Cost: $15/2-hr. class. Location: Located at top end of Church St., 79 Church Street, Suite 1, Burlington, VT. Johannes Ziegler, 598-8070, jziegler01@gmail.com, matendaja.com. Ninjutsu is a Japanese system of body movement (Taijutsu). This class will involve a heavy focus on basic techniques and stances, conditioning, traditional weapons, grappling and striking.

**VERMONT BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU.** Mon.-Fri., 6-9 p.m., & Sat., 10 a.m. 1st class is free. Location: Vermont Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, 55 Leray Rd., Williston. 660-4072, Julia@bjjusa.com, vermontbjj.com. Classes for men, women and children. Brazilian Jiu Jitsu enhances strength, flexibility

balance coordination and cardio respiratory fitness Brazilian Jiu Jitsu training builds and helps to instill courage and self confidence We offer a legitimate Brazilian Jiu Jitsu martial arts program in a friendly safe and positive environment Accept no imitations Learn from one of the world's best, Julio "Foca Fernandez CBJJ and IBJJF certified 6th Degree Black Belt, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu instructor under Carlson Gracie Sr., teaching in Vermont, born and raised in Rio de Janeiro Brazil A 5 time Brazilian Jiu Jitsu National Featherweight Champion and 3 time Rio de Janeiro State Champion

## meditation

**OORJE OROLLO EMPOWERMENT** Apr 5-7. Cost: $150/3-day empowerment & teachings Location: Shelburne Town Hall Main St. Shelburne Younge Drodul Ling 488 5011, President@youngeirinduling org http://youngeirdudling.com/index.shtml Younge Khechab Rinpoche will offer the Dorje Drollo empowerment and liberating instructions from the terma cycle of Younge Mingyur Dorje. Dorje Drollo is an intensely wrathful manifestation of Padmasambhava and is associated with the activity of "crazy wisdom" or perfectly pure conduct that is beyond the conventions of ordinary ego and habits. As this practice has been directly passed down to Rinpoche through his family lineage it is particularly auspicious to receive it from such a master

**ENLIGHTENED SOCIETY TREATISE.** Fri Apr 5 6:30-8 p.m. Sat., Apr 6 8:30 a.m.–8:30 p.m., Sun., Apr 7 8:30 a.m. 6 p.m. Cost: $110/weekend program Location: Burlington Shambhala Meditation Center 187 South Winooski Ave. Burlington Elizabeth Kanani 658-6795 ekanard@gmail.com, burlington.shambhala.org. The Enlightened Society Treatise by Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche explores in detail how human society can manifest its wakefulness, intelligence and basic goodness while acknowledging the suffering in the world. This weekend offers an opportunity to study this text in the context of meditation, contemplation, exercises and talks. Preregistration is required.

**LEARN TO MEDITATE** Meditation instruction every Sun. mornings 9 a.m.–noon or by appt. Meditation sessions on Tue. & Thu., noon–1 p.m. and Mon.–Thu., 6–7 p.m. The Shambhala Cafe meets the 1st Sat. of each month for meditation & discussions. 9 a.m.–noon An Open House occurs every 3rd Fri. evening at 6:30–7:45 p.m., which includes an intro to the center, a short dharma talk & socializing. Location: Burlington Shambhala Center 187 S. Winooski Ave., Burlington, 658-6795 burlingtonshambhala.org Through the practice of sitting still and following your breath as it goes out and dissolves, you are connecting with your heart. By simply letting yourself be, as you are, you develop genuine sympathy toward yourself. The Burlington Shambhala Center offers meditation as a path to discovering gentleness and wisdom.

**MEDITATION TOOLS FOR LIVING** Apr 6 9 a.m. Location: Karme Choling, Barnet. 633-2384 karmecholing.org. One-day meditation program at Karme Choling in beautiful Barnet, Vermont. Learn mindfulness meditation, engage in interesting conversation, tour the grounds and enjoy a healthy lunch all in good company. Also offered May 4

**ONE MONTH MEDITATION RETREAT** Jun. 13–Jul. 12. Location: Karme Choling, Barnet. 633-2384 karmecholing.org. Wanting to retreat, deepen and open all at the same time? Perhaps you're ready for a Dathun! Dathun is a one month group meditation retreat but also can be done for just one week. The program is for new and experienced meditators. Scholarships available.

**ONE MONTH MEDITATION RETREAT** Apr. 11–May. 10 Location: Karme Choling, Barnet. 633-2384 karmecholing.org. Wanting to retreat, deepen and open all at the same time? Perhaps you're ready for a Dathun! Dathun is a one month group meditation retreat but also can be done for just one week. The program is for new and experienced meditators. Call for special youth rate

## music

**THE BILL REED MUSICAL THEATRE SUMMER INTENSIVE** Jun. 23–29. Location: Spotlight on Dance, 50 San Remo Drive South Burlington 862-7326 admin@theatricalsinger.com, http://billreedvoicestudio.com/the-studio/workshops/summer-Intensive.html Join Bill Reed for a weeklong program focusing on acting, techniques, working on different voice qualities, anatomy of the vocal mechanism and vocal technique, style and musicality, physical expression, dance for the stage as well as college and professional audition prep. The week culminates in a student performance

## pets

**BOW MEOW PET GROOMING SCHOOL** Spring session begins soon. Location: How Meow Pet Grooming School 26 Susie Wilson Rd., Essex 878-3647 bowmeowSO@aol.com, howmeowpetgrooming.com. Have you always been fond of dogs and cats? Do you have a creative streak? If you answered yes to these questions, then you may have what it takes to be a successful pet groomer! Why don't you find out? Now accepting applications for the spring session beginning March 25

## photography

**DIGITAL CRASH COURSE.** Apr 2 6–8 p.m. Cost: $40/2-hr workshop. Location: Reciprocity Studio, 209 College St. 3-E, Burlington. Reciprocity Studio, Monica Donovan 585-797 8620 mail@reciprocitystudio.com reciprocitystudio.com This workshop is geared toward individuals new to the world of digital SLRs. Camera operation, basic concepts including aperture, ISO and shutter speed, various camera modes and how to use them. Includes shooting challenges and reviews intended to help you get the most out of your camera. Digital SLR required

**PRIVATE PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES** Location: Cinde Rock Photography 48 Laurel Dr., Essex Junction. 238-9540 lrphotography@comcast.net, lindenrockphotography.com One-on-one private digital-photography classes of your choice for beginner and intermediate levels. Understand Your Camera, Lighting Techniques, Portrait Posing, Digital Workflow, Photoshop, Set Up a Photo Business and more. $69/half day, $125/full day. Small group classes also available

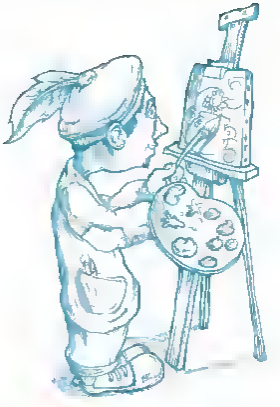
**SPRING IN VERMONT WORKSHOP.** May 17–19. Cost: $595/person. Location: Green Mountain Photographic Workshops, Central Vermont. Kurt Budliger 223-4022, lnfa@kurtbudligerphotography.com greenmtnphotoworkshops.com. Spring in Vermont is one of the most magical times to be outdoors exploring the landscape with a camera. During this three-day intensive photography workshop we'll explore and photograph some of the most stunning Vermont landscapes as they burst with spring color.

## psychology

**THE BEEBE BREAKTHROUGH** Apr 13 9 a.m.–noon Cost: $45/person. Location: 55 Clover Ln., Waterbury Sue 244-7909 Understand psychological development, relationship challenges and the dynamics of emotion and the unconscious through Jungian analyst John Beebe's sophisticated model of personality type. Both experts and novices in type theory can gain insights. CEUs are available. Led by Mark Hunziger, cosponsored by VT APT and the Jungian Center

## reiki

**SECOND DEGREE REIKI** Sat & Sun. Apr 6-7 Sat. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Sun 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m. love offering (you determine your payment) Location: Venue will be sent upon registration



Middlebury Barbara Clearbridge 324-9149 clearbridge@FeelingMuchBetter.org, FeelingMuchBetter.org. Ready for more — more power, more knowledge and more skills? Includes mental and emotional healing techniques and distant treatment methods. Prior First Degree Usui Reiki certification is required. Limit: 10 participants. Instructor: Barbara Clearbridge is a teacher of traditional Usui Reiki with over 25 years' experience with healing energies.

## relationships

**TANGO INSPIRED COUPLES THERAPY** Apr. 8-29 7:30 p.m. Weekly on Mon. Cost: $360/couple, preregistration required/$50 deposit by Apr 1 Location: Perkins Room, College Street Congregational Church, 265 College St., Burlington Tango Wise LLC Elizabeth M. Seyler, 658-5225, elizabethmseyler@gmail.com tangowise.com/workshops/ Express yourself and experience your relationship through movement and play. This exciting series for 4 to 6 couples uses Argentine tango to explore communicating without words. Couples of all ages/configurations welcome. Wear clean indoor shoes or socks. No dance experience required. Instructors: Kevin Gallegher MS, LCMHC, NCC, Elizabeth Seyler, PhD

## sewing

**ACCESS CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL** 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online. Cost: $85/person. Location: CVU High School. 10 min. from Exit 12 Hinesburg. 482-7194. access@cvuhs.org, cvuweb.cvuhs.org/access/ It's Your Bag! 3 Bags Sewing Workshop. Mon., Apr 29–May 6 & 13 6–8 p.m. A colorful folding shopping bag, small zippered organizer bag and tote with lots of pockets created as you learn to sew or continue to sew. Basic machine use, patterns and lining a bag are taught. Bring your own machine or use one at the school. Receive materials list upon enrolling. Limit 8. Senior discount.

## tai chi

**SNAKE STYLE TAI CHI CHUAN** Beginner classes Sat. mornings & Wed. evenings. Call to view a class. Location: Bee Tek Fai Tai Chi Institute, 100 Church St., Burlington. 864-7302, ipitalchi.org. The Yang Snake Style is a dynamic tai chi method that mobilizes the spine while stretching and strengthening the core body muscles. Erectifying this ancient martial art increases strength, flexibility, vitality, peace of mind and martial skill

**YANG STYLE TAI CHI** Wed. 5:30 p.m. Sat. 8:30 a.m. $16/class, $60/me., $160/3 mo. Location: Vermont Tai Chi Academy & Healing Center, 180 Flynn Ave., Burlington. Immediate right turn after railroad tracks. Follow the curve, then turn right & go through the parking lot, passing Vermont Hardware. Turn left at the end of the brick building & you will find a Tai Chi sign on your left. 434-2960. Tai chi is a slow, moving martial art that combines deep breathing and graceful movements to produce the valuable effects of relaxation, improved concentration, improved balance and ease in the symptoms of fibromyalgia. 735-5465 or 434-2960

## tarot

**TAROT FOR LIFE.** Apr 3–May 8, 7-9 p.m. Cost: $150/all 6 wks. Location: The Firefly Gallery, 200 Main St., suite 8, Burlington. Tarot Insights, Sherri Glebus 224-6756, sglebus@gmail.com tarotinsights.vpweb.com. This six-week workshop of one 2-hour session per week will guide participants through learning the basics of the deck, how to use it for readings for oneself and others, developing intuition and using Tarot for personal/spiritual development.

## well-being

**CHAKRA WORKSHOP** Apr 6 8:45 a.m.–3 p.m. Location: Blissful Wellness Center, 48 Laurel Dr., Essex. 238-9540. For more details, please visit: blissfullvt.com

## wood

**WOODTURNING INTRO TO BOWLS** Apr 27-28 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Monthly. Cost: $175/2-day class. Location: The Sculpted Tree, 150 West Canal St., Winooski. Nick Biasato, 999-2976, thesculptedtree@gmail.com, thesculptedtree.com. Guided by professional woodworker Nick Biasato, you will be introduced to the art of bowl making using hand chisels and a lathe. Each student will design and produce their own bowl from selvaged wood. Use your bowl for salad, ice cream, peanuts or to display wood shavings from your class!

## yoga

**EVOLUTION YOGA** $14/class, $130/class card, $5-10/community classes. Location: Evolution Yoga, 20 Kilburn St., Burlington. 864-9642, evolutionvt.com. Evolution Yoga offers a variety of classes in a supportive atmosphere: beginner, advanced, kids, babies, post- and prenatal, community classes and workshops. Vinyasa, Kripalu, Core, Breast Cancer Survivor and Alignment classes. Certified teachers, massage and PT too. Join our yoga community and get to know the family you choose.

**HOT TOGA BURLINGTON** Get hot — 2 for-1 offer 1-hr classes on Mon., Tue. & Thur. 5:30 p.m., Fri., 5 p.m. Sat. 10:30 a.m. Cost: $14/1st 2 classes, multi-class cards avail. Location: North End Studio B, 294 N Winooski Ave, Old North End, Burlington 399-9563, hotyogaburlingtonvt.com. Hot Yoga Burlington offers creative vinyasa style yoga featuring practice in the Barkan Method. Hot Yoga in a 95-degree studio accompanied by eclectic music. Try someth ng different!

**YOGA FOR ANXIETY & ADDICTION** Apr 10–May 29, 5:15-6:45 p.m. Weekly on Wed. Cost: $120/person. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Therapy, 364 Dorset St. suite 204 S. Burlington. 658-9440, lakshmi.yoga.vt@gmail.com. Within anxiety addictions can be born and feelings of claustrophobia within one's skin arise and grow. The antidote to anxiety is relaxation within the body and mind. This class will begin with a gentle heat, fueling the body with breath based movements then slowing down for long comfortable holds focusing on reducing stress through restful rejuvenation and meditation.

# Grambling, Man

## An interview with Nicki Bluhm of Nicki Bluhm and the Gramblers

BY DAN BOLLES



The increasing popularity of Nicki Bluhm and the Gramblers is in some ways a product of that modern phenomenon, the internet sensation. The California-based quintet has sneaked into popular consciousness thanks to the success of its ongoing series, the Van Sessions, in which the band records cover songs with miniaturized instrumentation while on tour in — you guessed it — their van. Particularly popular is their amiable, kazoo-laden rendition of Hall and Oates' "I Can't Go for That," which has spawned close to two million YouTube hits.

It's no "Gangnam Style" — blessedly. But it's helped deliver the group's stirring take on northern California folk, country and rock to wider audiences. The band is led by Bluhm and her husband, Tim Bluhm, a onetime member of NoCal cult favorites the Mother Hips, who discovered his future bride performing at a party. The Gramblers continue to build an audience the old-fashioned way, through near-constant touring. That included a Vermont stop last summer as part of Grace Potter & the Nocturnals' Grand Point North festival at Burlington's Waterfront Park.

In advance of the Gramblers' performance at the Higher Ground Showcase Lounge this Friday, March 29, *Seven Days* caught up with Nicki Bluhm by phone — where else? — in the van.

***SEVEN DAYS*: So what the hell is a Grambler?**

NICKI BLUHM: [Laughs.] That's a good question. I guess it could mean a lot of things. Tim's dear friend and bandmate in the Mother Hips, Greg Loiacano, kind of came up with it. It was loosely based on a Mother Hips fan who was really loose, just having fun and hanging out. When we put the band together for our first record, *Toby's Song*, we needed a band name. And Grambler was just a funny word that made us laugh. So I don't know if there is a real definition. You can choose your own.

**SD: You played Grace Potter's Grand Point North festival last summer. Tell me about that experience.**

NB: It was awesome. The setting is beautiful. It's like, the smell of Vermont. Maple syrup is in the air.

**SD: Yeah.**

NB: It was a very pleasant place to be. And Grace couldn't have been more hospitable and sweet. The audience was very inviting and warm. The whole experience was great.

**SD: Many people have come to know the band through the Van Sessions, specifically your take on "I Can't Go for That" by Hall and Oates. Why do you think it was that song that caught fire?**

NB: I think it could be any number of reasons. It could be something as simple as the tempo of that song, to getting the right groove. Maybe the kazoo solo? John Oates' camp retweeted it and it got picked up by a lot of different people. Who knows? It was kind of a perfect storm, I guess.

**SD: Are you a big Hall and Oates fan?**

NB: I didn't really know. I was until we decided we wanted to do a Hall and Oates song and there were so many we wanted to do. I was surprised by how many I knew. Growing up in the '80s and '90s, I learned them all through osmosis. And then, getting inside those songs, you realize how awesome they are. They're really intricate. Great harmonies and melodies. Really cool stuff. But I hadn't really given them enough attention before getting inside that song.

**SD: Do you ever do the Van Session songs live?**

NB: Sometimes we do, but not always. It depends on the night and the crowd. If it's the right setting, we might do some acoustic stuff. But it can be tough to do that in a rowdy bar. It depends.

**SD: You married the guy who discovered you, and now he's in your band. Is it tricky to balance your musical and married lives?**

NB: Yes. Not so much the musical relationship. But touring in general is a challenge. You don't have very much privacy. And it's really all work, especially the way we're doing it. It's a lot of driving and a lot of shared space. It's a blessing in a lot of ways. But it doesn't come without its challenges.

**SD: Your album with Tim, Duets, is beautiful. Does any of that stuff make an appearance at Gramblers shows?**

NB: It does. Again, it depends on the crowd and if we can get away with having some quieter sections. But we like to play some of that stuff when we can.

**SD: I've heard rumors that you're working on a concept album. Is that true?**

NB: It was an idea that Tim had, a collection of songs that told a story. But modern technology took a real shit and he lost a lot of those ideas. So a lot of those conceptual-album ideas have been put to rest until we can remember them again. The album we're working on now is not conceptual. But hopefully in the future we'll have another project like that. It really does interest us.

**SD: You were in a Gap commercial, part of a campaign with the Avett Brothers and Kaki King. Do you have thoughts on the role commercial placement increasingly plays in breaking bands?**

NB: The thing that I did actually didn't really help our numbers at all. We might have sold some more records, but I'm not sure. But because there was no music involved, it was just an image, it wasn't as powerful as if I had lent Gap a song. But I definitely think having music associated with a larger-scale media reach helps bands a lot. It's undeniable. Doing the shoot and seeing my picture around was cool. But I don't know how much it actually did for the band. ⑦

**i** Nicki Bluhm and the Gramblers play the Higher Ground Showcase Lounge in South Burlington this Friday, March 29, 8 p.m. $10/12. AA. You Me & Apollo open.

# SOUNDbites

BY DAN BOLLES

## All That Jazz

This is a big year for the Burlington Discover Jazz Festival. For starters, 2013 marks the fest's 30th anniversary. It is also the fest's maiden voyage under the leadership of Flynn Center artistic director **STEVE MACDUEEN** and new BDJF managing director, **LINDA LITTLE**. That duo takes the reins from departed honchos **ARNIE MALINA**, **BRIAN MITAL** and **GEEDA SEABFORCE**, who stepped down following last year's festival. Given that trio's collective decades of experience piloting the Discover Jazz ship, theirs are pretty large saddle shoes to fill, never mind the added excitement of the fest's big three-oh. But if the new kids are feeling the pressure, you'd never know it.

I met with Little and MacQueen over coffee last week to get acquainted and chat about this year's lineup, and came away impressed. Right off the bat, I'm rather enamored with their way of doing business — specifically, bagging the tired formality of the annual BDJF press conference. Have I mentioned how much I loathe press conferences? Well, I do.

More importantly, this year's lineup is shaping up to be a beauty, a fine mix of big-ticket headliners, dynamic newcomers and some underrated gems.

Like whom? Glad you asked!

Anchoring the marquee this year is **BOBBY MCFERRIN** at the Flynn MainStage on Saturday, June 1. Yeah, yeah. He's the guy who did "Don't Worry, Be Happy." But don't let the brain-gnawing catchiness of that song fool you. McFerrin is among the most technically gifted vocalists in history, a 10-time Grammy winner with enormous range and improvisational abilities. He's touring a new project that reimagines a catalog of African American spirituals performed by his father, **ROBERT MCFERRIN SR.** The elder McFerrin was a famed singer in his own right, and was the first black man to sing at the Metropolitan Opera in NYC.

Rounding out the rest of the MainStage lineup are **JOHN SCOFIELD'S ÜBERJAM BAND** (Friday, May 31), the **BRANFORD MARSALIS QUARTET** (Sunday, June 2), vocalist **ELIANE ELIAS** (Friday, June 7) and **PONCHO SANCHEZ AND HIS LATIN JAZZ BAND**, featuring UVM's own **RAY VEGA**, on Sunday, June 9.

Impressive as the MainStage slate is, as with most years, many of the festival's most memorable performances are likely to happen underground — or at least downstairs. The FlynnSpace lineup is brimming with lesser-known acts that could steal the festival, including Colombian harp virtuoso **EDMAR CASTANEDA** (Saturday, June 1), the **DAVE DOUGLAS QUINTET** (Monday, June 3), Boston jazz legends the **FRINGE** (Wednesday, June 5) and soon-to-be legendary vocalist **GRETCHEN PARLATO** (June 8). Personally, I'm most, ahem, jazzed for the Burlington debut of **BRIAN BOYES**' 20-member Arkestra, the **SATURN PEOPLE'S SOUND COLLECTIVE**, on Tuesday, June 4. **MICHAEL CHORNEY**, no stranger to genre-bending space music himself, told me that band's Goddard College premiere last fall was "simply one of the best concerts I have ever heard by anyone, local or not." I believe him.

Another potential sleeper hit would have to be **LEE FIELDS AND THE EXPRESSIONS** at Signal Kitchen on Friday, June 7. SK's cool confines were used to great effect during last year's festival, and the chance to hear one of R&B's legendary wailers in such close quarters promises to be pretty special. And sweaty.

As of this writing, Little and MacQueen were not quite ready to dish on the bands playing the Waterfront Tent — my guess would be something funky, and maybe a little irie. But you can expect those announcements to come soon, as well as news on this year's JazzLab, the block parties on Church Street and other smaller shows all over town. In the meantime, the website for the 2013 BDJF is live, with complete info and updates at discoverjazz.com.



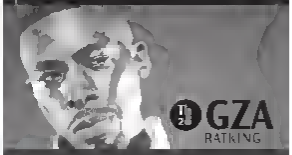
COURTESY OF ROBERT MCFERRIN

Bobby McFerrin

## BiteTorrent

It seems like every time I mention **VILLANELLES** these days, I have to lead with some version of "It's been awhile since last we heard from our old pals, Villanelles." Is any local band more prone to disappearing acts than our favorite grits-kissin' indie rockers? Anyway, it turns out the band has a good reason for laying low lately. They've been hard at work on a new record with — who else? — **RYAN POWER**. Sadly, the album won't see the light of day until later this summer, in part because front man **TRISTAN BARIBEAU** is soon off to Alaska to fight bears. Or do some farming stuff. I can't remember which. In any case, Villanelles play what is probably their last local show until the album-release party this Friday, March

SOUNDBITES » P63

HIGHER GROUND
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THU 28 GZA RATKING
MARCH
FRI 29 NICKI BLUHM & THE GRAMBLERS YOU ME & APOLLO
SAT 30 A LITTLE NAUGHTY NIGHT MUSIC PIERO BONAMICO
SAT 30 JUNIOR REID K-SALAAM, PURPLE DRANK, ICE COAST BAND, BIG DOG, DDMUS
THU 28 FLOSSTRADAMUS
APRIL
TUE 2 WATSKY DUMBFOUNDEAD
THU 4 BROWN BIRD LAST GOOD TOOTH
FRI 5 FIRST FRIDAY AUDREY RYAN, DJ LLU, DJ VEENA
SAT 5 CONSPIRATOR + BREAK SCIENCE
SU 6 FAMILY OF THE YEAR
TUE 9 G-EAZY GROUND UP
THU 11 ZEDS DEAD
FRI 12 BOBBY LONG MICHAEL BERNARD FITZGERALD
FRI 12 BADFISH: A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME AVON JUNKIES, THE BUMPING JONES
SAT 13 NOON & 3PM SHOWS DAN ZANES & ELIZABETH MITCHELL
SAT 13 JC BROOKS & THE UPTOWN SOUND
SAT 13 QUADRA + PLEASUREDDME
SU 14 BONOBO SHIGETO
UPCOMING
4/17 STS9
4/18 DIRTY PROJECTORS
4/19 JOHN PRINE
4/19 DEAD SEASHONS
4/20 KUNG FU + TWIDDLE
4/20 FUTURE ROCK
JUST ANNOUNCED
4/26 BLACK FRANCIS
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# music

## CLUB DATES

NA. NOT AVAILABLE. AA. ALL AGES

## WED.27

### *burlington area*

**CLUB METRONOME** Jandee Lee Porter Band (country) 9 p.m., $5/10 18+

**FRANNY O'S** Karaoke 9:30 p.m. Free

**HALFLOUNGE** Scott Mangan (singer-songwriter) 9 p.m. Free. Rewind with DJ Craig Mitchell (retro) 10 p.m. Free

**JP'S PUB** Karaoke with Morgan 10 p.m. Free

**LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ** Paul Asbell, Clyde Stats and Chris Peterman (jazz) 7 p.m. Free

**MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB** Open Mic with Andy Lugo 9:30 p.m. Free

**MONKET HOUSE** Chris Cohen, Paper Castles, Doctor Sailor, Toy Boat (indie) 9 p.m., $5

**NECTAR'S** What a Joke Comedy Open Mic (standup) 7 p.m. Free. Serotheft, Turbine, the Homitz (live EDM funk) 9 p.m. Free/$5 18+

**ON TAP BAR & GRILL** Nerbak Brothers (blues) 7 p.m., Free

**RADIO BEAN** Dave Mirabella (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. Free. Corin Ashley (acoustic pop) 8 p.m. Free. The Underscore Orkestra (Balkan) 10 p.m. Free

**RED SQUARE** Eames Brothers Band (mountain blues) 7 p.m. Free. DJ Creß (hip hop) 10 p.m. Free.

**SKINNY PANCAKE** Josh Panda and Brett Lanier (rock) 7 p.m., $5-10 donation.

### *central*

**BAGITOS** Acoustic Blues Jam with the Usual Suspects 6 p.m., Free

**CHARLIE O'S** Townes Van Zandt Tribute with Dan Zura and Pete Rahn 8 p.m. Free

**SKINNY PANCAKE** Jay Ellis (singer-songwriter) 6 p.m. $5-10 donation

**WHAMMY BAR** Open Mic, 6:30 p.m. Free

### *champlain valley*

**CITY LIMITS** Karaoke with Let It Rock Entertainment, 9 p.m. Free

**TWO BROTHERS TAVERN** Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Free

### *northern*

**BEE'S KNEES** Andrew Parker Renga (singer-songwriter) 7:30 p.m. Donations

**THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB** Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues) 7 p.m. Free

**MOOD'S PLACE** Mike and John (acoustic) 8 p.m. Free

**PARKER PIE CO.** Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Free

### *regional*

**MONOPOLE** Open Mic 8 p.m. Free.

**OLIVE RIDLEY'S** Rick Davies Thugtet (jazz) 8 p.m. Free

## THU.28

### *burlington area*

**CLUB METRONOME** Nigel Hall Band, Dr. Ruckus (soul) 9 p.m. $7/10

**COMA CAFÉ** Robert Resnik (folk) 7 p.m. Free



SUN.31 // DARWIN DEEZ (INDIE)

COURTESY OF DARWIN DEEZ

**Deez Nuts** **DARWIN DEEZ** are generally known for their spastic, irreverent brand of synth-happy indie rock. But on their latest album, *Songs for Imaginative People*, the Brooklyn band adopts a more austere, contemplative tone. Well, sort of. Though more emotionally forthright, *Songs* still delivers the band's signature gleeful romp amid a vibrant polyphony of glitzy, danceable electro-pop. This Sunday, March 31, Darwin Deez play Signal Kitchen in Burlington with **EAGED ANIMALS** and **NOW SAD**

**FRANNY O'S** Karaoke 9 p.m., Free.

**HALFLOUNGE** Bunny Thursday with Dave Langevin (acoustic) 6 p.m. Free. Josh Dobs (ambient) 8 p.m., Free. DJ ATAK (EDM) 10:30 p.m. Free

**NIGHE0 GROUND BALLROOM** GZA, Ratking (hip-hop) 9 p.m. $18/20. AA.

**LEVITY** Farewell Levity Open Mic (standup) 7:30 p.m. Free

**MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB** Hot Waxxx with Justcaus & Pen West (hip-hop) 9:30 p.m. Free

**MONKET HOUSE** Greta Western, Ben Donovan, Joe Redding (alt country) 8:30 p.m. $3 18+

**MUDDY WATERS** Jamie Masefield, Doug Perkins & Tyler Bolles (acoustic) 6:30 p.m., Free

**NECTAR'S** Trivia Mania with Top Hat Entertainment, 7 p.m. Free. Daphne Lee Martin, Vedora (rock, folk) 9:30 p.m. Free/$5 18+

**O'BRIEN'S IRISH PUB** DJ Dominic (hip-hop) 9:30 p.m. Free

**ON TAP BAR & GRILL** Joe Moore Band (blues) 7 p.m. Free

**RADIO BEAN** Dave Fugel & Friends (jazz) 6 p.m., Free. Shane Hardiman Trio with Geza Carr & Rob Morse (jazz) 8:30 p.m., Free. Batoka (West African groove) 11 p.m., Free

**RED SQUARE** The Hardscrabble Hounds (alt country) 7 p.m. Free. DJ Jay Baron (hip hop) 10 p.m. Free

**RED SQUARE BLUE ROOM** DJ Creß (house) 10 p.m., Free

**SIGA IRISH PUB** The Cop Outs (rock) 9 p.m. Free

**SIGNAL KITCHEN** Noah Gunderson, Denison Witmer, Doctor (singer-songwriters) 9 p.m. $10 18+

**SKINNY PANCAKE** Zack duPont (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. $5-10 donation

**VENUE** Thirsty Thursdays 7 p.m., Free.

### *central*

**BAGITOS** Jeremy Child (acoustic) 6 p.m., Donations

**CHARLIE O'S** Ask Tell, Joel Chaves, Kathleen Kanz, Christine Parker, Sean Williams, Marc Bouchard (standup) 10 p.m., Free

**GREEN MOUNTAIN TAVERN** Thirsty Thursday Karaoke 9 p.m., Free

### *champlain valley*

**ST. MAIN** Turbine (rock) 6 p.m., Free

**CITY LIMITS** Trivia with Top Hat Entertainment 7 p.m., Free

**ON THE RISE BAKERY** Open Irish Session, 5 p.m., Free

**TWO BROTHERS TAVERN** VT Comedy Club Showcase (standup) 7:30 p.m., $3. DJ Dizzle (house) 10 p.m., Free.

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# SOUNDbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 61

29, at the Monkey House with Maine's **COKE WEED** and another local indie band whose album we're eagerly awaiting, **ALPENGLOW**.

Speaking of Baribeau, he'll be playing a show with his side project, **OOCTOR SAILOR**, at the Monkey this Wednesday, March 27, opening for recent VT transplant **CHRIS COHEN**. Cohen was formerly a member of bands such as **ARIEL PINK, DEERHOOF** and **CASS MCCOMBS** before retreating to the Green Mountains. Here he has recorded his most recent album, the hipster-tested, Pitchfork-approved *Overgrown Path*. When I spoke to him recently, Baribeau was practically giddy over playing with Cohen, and I can understand why. *Path* is a killer little album.

Pure Pop Records, that death-defying bastion of brick-and-mortar music stores, is hosting a rare in-store performance this week. LA country-rockers **DAWES** — technically in Vermont for a gig at Jay Peak this Friday, March 29 — will rock the basement shop on Thursday, March 28. Tickets are limited, and if you want one, you have to pre-order the band's forthcoming record, *Stories Don't End*, at Pure Pop. Given the all-around awesomeness of their last record, *Nothing Is Wrong*, you should go ahead and do that.

This just in from the Reggae Desk. **JUHOB REID**, who replaced **MICHAEL ROSE** as the vocalist in **BLACK UHURU**, makes his Vermont debut at the Higher Ground Ballroom this Saturday, March 30, with **K SALAAM**. Interestingly, the show is curated by **DJ MASHTOOON** and features some ace local openers, including **DJ BIG DOO, PURPLE ORANK** and the **ICE COAST BAND**. So if you go, get there on time for once, OK?



Junior Reid

COURTESY OF JUNIOR REID

Last but not least, a couple of weeks ago I stumbled upon what might be my new favorite local band, the **BLIM-BLAMS**, playing a late-night set — their debut performance, no less — at Radio Bean. Led by the criminally underrated **RYAN OBER** (**INVISIBLE JET, LED LO/CO**), the BBs deliver a ragged take on early rock and roll that left me grinning from ear to ear. Granted, that could also have been the Wolaver's Oatmeal Stout — I wasn't being facetious about the "stumbled" part earlier. Anyway, the group plays its second show this Saturday, March 30, again at Radio Bean. This time around, they'll be joined by the **BLAMETTES, MIRIAM BERNARDO** and **EMER FEELY**, on backing vocals. (Full disclosure: *Seven Days* staffer Steve Hadeka plays drums in the Blim-Blams.)



Villanelles

COURTESY OF VILLANELLES

## This Week on Tour Date with DJ Llu

The third season of *Seven Days* music podcast Tour Date with **DJ LLU** continues this Wednesday, March 27, when Llu chats with British soul singer **JAMIE LIDELL** in advance of his upcoming show at Signal Kitchen in Burlington on Wednesday, April 10. BTW, if you tune in, you could win tickets to that show. Check it out at 7d.blogs.com/tour_date.

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NIGEL HALL OF SOULIVE, LETTUCE, & MANE MOBIL [SOUL / JAZZ / FUNK / HIP-HOP] W/ DR. RUCKUS
FRI MAR 29 — THUNDER BODY [REGGAE / DUB] W/ CONSCIOUS ROOTS
GREEN MOUNTAIN CABARET 7PM DOORS // 8PM SHOW
"NO DIGGITY 90'S NIGHT" WITH DJ FATBOY FREE WITH COLLEGE ID UNTIL 11:30
SAT MAR 30 — TURKUAZ W/ AGUEOUS
RETRONOME HITS OF THE 70'S & 80'S WITH DJ FATBOY FREE WITH COLLEGE ID UNTIL 11:30
SUN MAR 31 — MI YARD REGGAE NIGHT WITH DJ'S BIG DOG & DEMUS
THE MALAYAKA HOUSE GET DOWN FT. THE EDD & PONGO 5 GROOVE
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### northern

**THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB** Dinner Jazz with Fab an Rainville 6:30 p.m. Free

**MATTERHORN** Aqueous (groove) 9 p.m., $5

**MOOG'S PLACE** Chicky Stoltz (singer-songwriter) 8 p.m. Free

**PARKER PIE CO.** Below Zero (rock) 7:30 p.m. Free

### regional

**MOHOPOLE** The Snacks (rock) 10 p.m. Free

**MOHOPOLE DOWNSTAIRS** Gary Peacock (singer songwriter) 10 p.m. Free

**OLIVE RIOLEY'S** Karaoke 8 p.m. Free

**THERAPY** Therapy Thursdays with DJ NYCE (Top 40) 10:30 p.m. Free.

## FRI.29

### burlington area

**BACKSTAGE PUB** Trivia with Made In the Shade Entertainment, 6 p.m. Free. Karaoke with Steve 9 p.m. Free

**CLUB METRONOME** Green Mountain Cabaret, 7 p.m., $10/15. No Diggity: Return to the '90s ('90s dance party) 9 p.m. $5

**HALFLOUNGE** World End Girlfriend (singer songwriter) 8 p.m. Free. Bonjour Hi (moombahton) 10:30 p.m. Free.

**HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE** Nicki Bluhm & the Gramblers. You Me & Apollo (rock) 8 p.m. $10/12. AA.

**JP'S PUB** Starstruck Karaoke 10 p.m. Free

**LIFT** Ladies Night, 9 p.m. Free/$3

**MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB** Potbelly (rock) 9:30 p.m. Free

**MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE.** Pine Street Jazz, 8:30 p.m. Free

**MONKEY HOUSE** AM & MSR Presents: Villanelles. Alpenglow. Coke Weed (indie) 9 p.m. $5

**NECTAR'S** Happy Ending Fridays with Jay Burwick (solo acoustic) 5 p.m., Free. Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues) 7 p.m., Free. Thunder Body Conscious Boots (reggae) 9 p.m. $5

**ON TAP RAR & GRILL** Woodeggies (blues) 5 p.m. Free. Joe McGuinness & Longshot (country) 9 p.m. Free.

**PARK PLACE TAVERN** Area 51 (rock) 9:30 p.m.

**RADIO REAN** Kid's Music with Linda "Tickle Belly" Bassick, 11 a.m. Free. Squimley and the Woolens (post rock) 12:45 p.m. Free. Tyler George Minetti and Thomas Peare (ambient) 7 p.m. Free. Aya Inoue (singer songwriter) 9 p.m., Free. Hana Zara (singer songwriter) 10 p.m., Free. Phil Yates & the Affiliates (rock) 11:15 p.m. Free

**RED SQUARE** Mike Pederson (singer songwriter) 5 p.m., Free. Colt Six (rock) 8 p.m. $5. DJ Craig Mitchell (house) 11 p.m. $5

**RUBEN JAMES** DJ Creb (hip hop) 10:30 p.m. Free.

**RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB** Supersounds DJ (Top 40) 10 p.m., Free.

**SKINNY PANCAKE** Linda Bassick (singer songwriter) 8 p.m. $5-10 donation

### central

**BARITOS** David Kraus (singer songwriter) 6 p.m., Donations

**CHARLIE O'S** Cellular Chaos. Vicious Gifts (punk) 10 p.m. Free

**GREEN MOUNTAIN TAVERN** DJ Jonny P (Top 40) 8 p.m. $2

**POSITIVE PIE** Jake Whitesell Quartet (jazz) 8 p.m. Free.

**POSITIVE PIE 2.** Andric Severance Xtet (jazz) 10:30 p.m., $5

**TUPELO MUSIC HALL.** Denny Laine and the Cryers (Brit pop) 8 p.m. $25/35.

### champlain valley

**51 MAIN** Sarah Stickle. Jenn Crowell. Steve Hartmann (singer songwriters) 8 p.m. Free

**ON THE RISE BAKERY** Don Tobey and Mary Collins (acoustic) 8 p.m. Donations

**TWO BROTHERS TAVERN** Waylon Speed (rock) 10 p.m. $3

### northern

**THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB** The Hub Family Band (rock) 9:30 p.m. Free

**MATTERHORN** The Sugardaddies (rock) 9 p.m. $5

**MOOG'S PLACE** Max Weaver Band (rock) 9 p.m., Free.

**PARKER PIE CO** Sessions Americana 8 p.m. $20

**RIMROCKS MOUNTAIN TAVERN** Friday Night Frequencies with DJ Rekkon (hip-hop) 10 p.m., Free

### regional

**MOHOPOLE** Dynomatics (rock) 10 p.m., Free

**OLIVE RIOLEY'S** Glass Onion (rock) 10 p.m. NA

**THERAPY** Pulse with DJ Nyce (hip hop) 10 p.m. $5

## SAT.30

### burlington area

**CHURCH & MAIN RESTAURANT** Night Vision (EDM) 9 p.m. Free

**CLUB METRONOME** Vermont Comedy Club: Spring Improv Comedy Spectacular (improv comedy) 6 p.m. $8/10. 18+ Retronome (80s dance party) 10 p.m., $5

**FRANNY O'S** Karaoke, 9 p.m., Free

**HALFLOUNGE** Dave Grippo (funk) 9 p.m. Free. Whiplash (drum & bass) 10 p.m. Free

**HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM** Junior Reid. K. Salaam. Purple Orank. Ice Coast band. Big Dog. Demus (reggae) 9 p.m., $20/25. AA

**HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE** A Little Naughty Night Music with Piero Bonamico 8 p.m. $25. AA

**JP'S PUB** Karaoke with Megan 10 p.m. Free

**MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB** Joe Adler & Eric Segalstad present Songs & Instruments (folk) 9:30 p.m. Free

**MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE.** The Beerworth Sisters (folk) 8:30 p.m. Free

**MONKEY HOUSE** Summit of Thieves, Hanging Hills, Bible Camp Sleepovers (rock) 8:30 p.m. $5/10. 18+

**NECTAR'S** Queen City Chili Cook Off 11:30 a.m. Free/$5. 13+. Andrew Parker Renga (singer songwriter) 7 p.m. Free. Turkuaz. Aqueous (funk) 9 p.m. $5

**ON TAP BAR & GRILL.** The Aerolites (rock) 9 p.m., Free.

**RADIO REAN** The Peasant Dramatic (singer songwriter) 12 p.m., Free. Josh Olmstead (blues folk) 7 p.m.,

SAT.30 » P66





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| 3:00 | judging starts |
| 4:00 | Turkuaz plays/judging finished and tallied |
| 4:30 | winner announced! |

Long Trail Brewing

Nectar's



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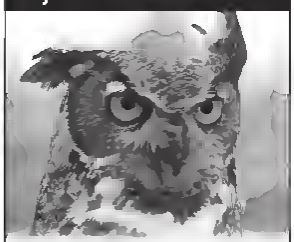
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# music

## CLUB DATES

NA: NOT AVAILABLE AA: ALL AGES



COURTESY OF GZA

THU.28 // GZA (HIP-HOP)

**Real Genius** A founding member of the Wu-Tang Clan and widely regarded as one of the finest and most cerebral rappers of his generation, DZA — aka the GENIUS — could be forgiven for resting on his laurels. That is, if he ever rested. In addition to near-constant touring and frequent appearances on fellow Clan members' solo albums, GZA has a new record, *Dark Matter*, slated for release this year. Better still, he's also rumored to be working on a sequel to his landmark 1995 album, *Liquid Swords*, called *Liquid Swords II: Return of the Shadowboxer*. This Thursday, March 28, catch him at the Higher Ground Ballroom with RATKING

SAT 30 « P64

Free. Joe Bonner (country), 8 p.m., Free. Rabbit in the Rye (progressive folk-rock), 9 p.m., Free. Chapman Rhoads Duo, 10 p.m., Free. The Slim Blams (rock and roll), 11:30 p.m., Free. Tom Banjo's X-Rated Cranky Show, 1 a.m., Free.

**RED SQUARE** Ellen Powell Trio (jazz), 5 p.m., Free. Alejandro & Grupo Sabor (Latin), 8 p.m., $8. Mashlodon (mashup), 11 p.m., $5.

**RED SQUARE BLUE ROOM** DJ Raul (salsa), 7 p.m., Free.

**RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB** Slickbitch (rock), 10 p.m., Free.

**SKINNY PANCAKE** 90 Mile Portage (folk), 8 p.m., $5-10 donation.

**VENUE** 18 & Up Destination Saturdays, 8 p.m., Free.

### central

**BAGITOS** Sunday Brunch with Art Herttua (jazz guitar), 11 a.m., Donations. Irish Sessions, 2 p.m., Free. Jeff Duke (acoustic), 6 p.m., Donations.

**CHARLIE O'S** All Request Dance Party, 10 p.m., Free.

**RED HEN BAKERY & CAFÉ** Bob & the Troubadors (rock), 1 p.m., Free.

**TUPELO MUSIC HALL** Max Creek (rock), 7 p.m., $22.

### champlain valley

**51 MAIN** Crazyhearse (rock), 8 p.m., Free.

**CITY LIMITS** Dance Party with DJ Earl (Top 40), 9 p.m., Free.

**GOOD TIMES CAFE** Aaron Flinn (rock), 8 p.m., $12.

**TWO BROTHERS TAVERN** DJ Dizzie (house), 10 p.m., Free.

### northern

**THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB** Karaoke, 9 p.m., Free.

**MATTERHORN** Live Music (rock), 9 p.m., $5.

**MOOG'S PLACE** Red Hot Juba (cosmic Americana), 9 p.m., Free.

### regional

**MONOPOLE** High Peaks (rock), 10 p.m., Free.

**OLIVE RIDLEY'S** Glass Onion (rock), 10 p.m., NA.

## SUN.31

### burlington area

**CLUB METRONOME** The Malayaka House Get Down: the Edd Pongo's Groove (rock), 9 p.m., $5, 18+.

**HALFLOUNGE** B-Sides with Rob Ticho (deep house), 7 p.m., Free. Open Turntables hosted by Rob Ticho, 10 p.m., Free.

**MONKEY HOUSE** AM & MSR Presents: the People's Temple (indie), 9 p.m., $5, 18+.

**NECTAR'S** Mi Yard Reggae Night with Big Dog & Demus, 9 p.m., Free.

**ON TAP BAR & GRILL** Brunch with Andrew Parker Renga (singer-songwriter), 11 a.m., Free.

**RADIO BEAN** Pete Sutherland and Tim Stickle's Old-Time Session, 2 p.m., Free. Trio Gusto (Parisian jazz), 5 p.m., Free. Ben Grosscup (folk), 7:30 p.m., Free. Will Overman (singer-songwriter), 9 p.m., Free. Bandleader (rock), 10 p.m., Free. Mally Burns (hip-hop), 11 p.m., Free.

**SIGNAL KITCHEN** Darwin Deez, Caged Animals, How Sad (indie), 6 p.m., $10/13, AA.

### central

**SKINNY PANCAKE** 90 Mile Portage (folk), 6 p.m., $5-10 donation.

### northern

**MATTERNORN** Chris Tagatac (acoustic rock), 4 p.m., Free.

## MON.01

### burlington area

**242 MAIN** Fool's Gold Art Auction & Pink and Blue Paradise Ball, 5 p.m., $10 donation.

**HALFLOUNGE** Family Night Open Jam, 10:30 p.m., Free.

**MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB** Karaoke, 9:30 p.m., Free.

**NECTAR'S** Metal Monday: Howl, Strong Intention, Siva, Vultures of Cult (metal), 9 p.m., $5/10, 18+.

**ON TAP BAR & GRILL** Open Mic with Wylie, 7 p.m., Free.

**RADIO BEAN** Andrew Stearns & Friends (bluegrass), 7:30 p.m., Free. Open Mic, 9 p.m., Free.

**RUBEN JAMES** Why Not Monday? with Dakota (hip-hop), 10 p.m., Free.

### central

**CHARLIE O'S** Trivia Night, 8 p.m., Free.

### northern

**MOOG'S PLACE** Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues), 6 p.m., Free.

TUE 02 » P68

# REVIEW *this*




## Cities on the Moon, *Sunflower Sutra*

(SELF RELEASED CD DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)

*Sunflower Sutra*, the third release from Burlington-based songwriter Patrick Crowley under the name Cities on the Moon takes its title from an Allen Ginsberg poem of the same name. Crowley, who moonlights in the local funk band What's Good, wrote the record last year as a meditation on isolation. While not exactly a concept album, there are thematic threads that stitch the work together, culminating in a closing five-song suite that tells the larger story of the album as a whole — and perhaps Crowley himself. It's an ambitious project, with a heightened degree of difficulty given its overt invocation of one of the Beat Generation's great poets.

Crowley is no Ginsberg, and it would obviously be unfair to compare the two. But, lyrically at least, Crowley does occasionally approach a similar level of howling disillusionment as his famed muse. On album opener "Ninety" he sings, "Dressed like a fugitive / turning up in all your photos / either for the first time or not." He writes with a keen eye and a wounded heart. Especially when he resists the temptation to overexpose and allows some room for interpretation, it is an effective combination.

But Crowley's *Sunflower* wilts under a burning glare of schmaltzy arrangements and maudlin vocal performances. It's not a lack of talent. He is clearly a capable multi-instrumentalist and a gifted singer. Yet the mystery he crafts with his words is too often unmasked by a grating conflux of tinny synth drums, Muzak-y electric piano and various other crimes against good taste. Witness "Mary and Me and the Marionette," a song that opens like a Mariah Carey Christmas ballad gone awry and never recovers.

Crowley has a flair for the dramatic, especially vocally. But his tendency to gloss his substantial prose with unnecessary musical flash is a contradiction.

However, there are some truly compelling moments to be found on *Sunflower Sutra*, particularly in the album's closing chapters. On the comparatively spare "Fall Like the Tree in a Clearing," Crowley gives his words room to breathe. The result is a somber dirge that elicits favorable comparisons to the delicate work of artists such as Rufus Wainwright. On "Subversive Jingle," he attacks consumerism with a rapier wit that Ginsberg would have appreciated, coupled with a smart electronic arrangement that highlights his dramatic croon.

On the whole, *Sunflower Sutra* is an uneven effort, but one that suggests promise, should Crowley strike that elusive balance between the head and the heart.

*Sunflower Sutra* by Cities on the Moon is available at citiesonthemoon.com.

DAN BOLLES




## Saint Albums, *Falling Star*

(LONELY HIWAY DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)

In the hubbub surrounding the newly minted Pope Francis, it might be easy to forget that, in Vermont, we have our very own patron saint of music, Saint Albums. Admittedly, it's been a while since his last decree. As of 2009, Saint Albums — born Ben Campbell — had released an astonishing 28 records in nine years. But the rub with being prolific is that the quality of those brain purges can be uneven. We can't claim to have heard everything Campbell has released. But we can say with authority that the last four or five albums match quantity with skill, inventiveness, reinventiveness and overall musical excellence. So why the disappearing act?

Perhaps after producing so much so quickly, Campbell's well simply ran dry. Maybe he burned out. Maybe he just felt like doing other things. Maybe he — gasp! — got a real job. Who knows? Whatever the reason, local Saint Albums acolytes will be delighted to learn that Campbell is back. Last week, he released his first album, dubbed *Falling Star*, since 2009's exceptional *The Machine in the Man* — his third release that year. Hallelujah.

Campbell has never been shy about experimenting in a variety of genres. His forays into pop, rock, electronic music, acoustic music and various crossroads in between have all roughly exhibited the same skill and attention to detail. They have also mostly existed on albums with similar stylistic tones. Less so on *Falling Star*. While anchored in reflective pop, the record presents a hodgepodge of styles, from quiet bedroom demos to more fully realized and sophisticated works.

From the dovetailing harmonies of foot-tapping, lo-fi acoustic opener "Am I Myself" to the Angry Young Man-era Elvis Costello punch of "Ear of a Fool" to the ethereal atmospherics of "Erase My Memory," Campbell twists and turns with seemingly effortless grace and artful nuance. "Not a Morning Angel" begins with a jolting alarm of feedback, before groggily coming to caffeinated focus. "Push Me" is a narcotic swirl of heady art rock. "Up For Sale" exists in a dreamy haze of Yo La Tengo-ish guitars and whispered melodies. "Rainfall" lazily meanders like a Pavement outtake.

Diverse and mysterious, *Falling Star* is something like a Saint Albums sampler, touching on the disparate elements that have informed Campbell's varied previous efforts. That is not to say the record suffers a crisis of identity. Instead, the 14 tracks herein ultimately reveal the artist's true musical face, that of a sublimely gifted, insatiably curious and wildly multifaceted artist.

*Falling Star* by Saint Albums is available at lonelyhiway.com.

DAN BOLLES

**GET YOUR MUSIC REVIEWED:** IF YOU'RE AN INDEPENDENT ARTIST OR BAND MAKING MUSIC IN VT, SEND YOUR CD TO US: DAN BOLLES C/O SEVEN DAYS, 255 SO. CHAMPLAIN ST. STE 5, BURLINGTON, VT 05401



SAT 30 // MAX CREEK (ROCK)

**Maxing Out** If there is one predictable thing about **MAX CREEK** shows, it's that they are wholly unpredictable experiences. Built upon a foundation of rock, blues, bluegrass and reggae and framed by a proclivity for heady flights of improvisational fancy, the band usually assumes nearly any form it desires, from tender balladeers to hard-charging rockers to space-jam cosmonauts. Catch them at the Tupelo Music Hall in White River Junction this Saturday, March 30.

MON 01 « P.56

## TUE.02

### *burlington area*

**CLUB METRONOME** Dead Set with Cats Under the Stars (Grateful Dead tribute) 9 p.m. Free/$5 18+

**HALFLOUNGE** Tequila Project (funk) 10 p.m. Free

**HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE** Walnsky Dumbfounded (hillbilly pop) 8:30 p.m. $12/14 AA.

**MONKEY HOUSE** AM & MSR Presents Jamaican Queens (indie) 8:30 p.m. $5

**MONTY'S OLD BRICK TAVERN** Open Mic, 6 p.m. Free

**NECTAR'S** Suncooked, Will Overman and Friends, Dan Tedesco (folk rock) 9 p.m. Free/$5 16+

**OLDE NORTHENDER** Abby Jenne & the Enablers (rock) 9 p.m. Free

**ON TAP BAR & GRILL** Trivia with Tap Hal Entertainment 7 p.m. Free

**RADIO REAN** Gua Gua (psychotropical) 6 p.m., Free. Eric George (blues) 8 p.m. Free. Burlington Bread Boys (old time) 9 p.m. Free. Honky Tonk Sessions 10 p.m., $3

**REDSQUARE** Craig Mitchell (house) 10 p.m. Free

**REDSQUARE BLUE ROOM** DJ Frank Grymes (EDM) 11 p.m. Free

### *central*

**CHARLIE O'S** Karaoke 10 p.m. Free

**WHAMMY BAR** Trivia Night, 6:30 p.m., Free

### *champlain valley*

**TWO BROTHERS TAVERN** Monster Hills Karaoke 9 p.m. Free.

### *northern*

**MOOG'S PLACE** Open Mic/Jam Night 8:30 p.m. Free

## WED.03

### *burlington area*

**CLUB METRONOME** WOKO presents Keeghan Nolan (country) 8 p.m. $5/10 18+

**FRANNY O'S** Karaoke 9:30 p.m. Free.

**HALFLOUNGE** Scott Mangan (singer-songwriter) 9 p.m. Free. Rewind with DJ Craig Mitchell (retro) 10 p.m. Free

**JP'S PUB** Karaoke with Morgan 10 p.m. Free

**MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB** Open Mic with Andy Lugo 9:30 p.m. Free

**NECTAR'S** What a Joke Comedy Open Mic (standup) 7 p.m. Free. The Brew, Sam duPont (rock) 9 p.m. $6 18+

**ON TAP BAR & GRILL** Chad Hollister (singer songwriter) 7 p.m. Free

**RADIO REAN** Dawna Hammers (singer-songwriter) 6 p.m. Free. Gregory McKillop (folk punk) 7 p.m. Free. Irish Sessions 9 p.m. Free. Punk Rock Night. Vaporizer, Worst 5 Minutes of Your Life, 11 p.m. Free

**REDSQUARE** DJ Creb (hip hop) 10 p.m. Free

**SKINNY PARCARE** Josh Panda and Brett Lanier (rock) 7 p.m., $5-10 donation

### *central*

**RAGITOS** Acoustic Blues Jam with the Usual Suspects 6 p.m. Free

**WHAMMY BAR** Open Mic 6:30 p.m. Free

### *champlain valley*

**CITY LIMITS** Karaoke with Let It Rock Entertainment, 9 p.m. Free

**ON THE RISE BAKERY** Open Blues Session 8 p.m. Free.

**TWO BROTHERS TAVERN** Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Free. 50s Night, 9 p.m. Free

### *northern*

**THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB** Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues) 7 p.m., Free

**MOOG'S PLACE** Max Weaver & Jess Zehngut (acoustic) 5 p.m., Free

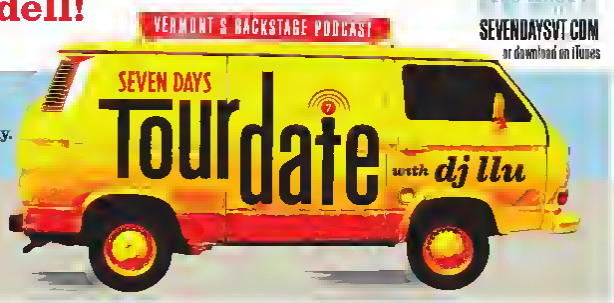
**PARKER PIE CO** Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Free

### *regional*

**MOHOPOLE** Open Mic, 8 p.m. Free

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**242 MAIN St.**, Burlington 862 2244

**AMERICAN FLATBREAD** 115 St. Paul St. Burlington, 881 2999

**AUGUST FIRST** 149 S Champla n St. Burlington 540-0060

**BACKSTAGE PUB** 10 Pearl St. Essex Jct., 878 5434

**BANANA WINDS CAFÉ & PUB** 1 Market Pl., Essex Jct., 879 0752

**THE BLOCK GALLERY** 1 E. Allen St. Winooski 373-5150

**BREAKWATER CAFÉ** 1 King St. Burlington 658-7276

**BRENNAN'S PUB & BISTRO**, UVM Davis Center 590 Main St. Burl ngton 656-1204

**CHURCH & MAIN RESTAURANT** 158 Church St. Burl ngton 540-3040

**CITY SPORTS GRILLE** 215 Lower Mounta n View Dr. Colchester 655 2720

**CLUB METRONOME** 188 Main St. Burl ngton 865-4563

**ODDRÁ TCA** 10 Chruch St. Burlington 951-2424

**FRANNY O'S** 733 Queen City Park Rd. Burlington 863-2909

**HALFLOUNGE** 136 1/2 Church St. Burl ngton 865 0012

**HALVORSON'S UPSTREET CAFÉ** 16 Church St. Burlington 658 0278

**HIGHER GROUND** 1214 W llston Rd. S. Burlington 652 0777

**JP'S PUB** 139 Main St. Burlington 658-6369

**LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ** 115 Church St. Burlington 863-3759

**LEVITY CAFÉ** 9 Center St., Burlington 318-4888

**LIFT** 185 Church St., Burlington 860-2088

**MAGUANERO CAFÉ** 47 Maple St., Burl ngton 881 3155

**MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB** 187 Main St., Burlington, 864 9776

**MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE**, 25 Cherry St. Burl ngton 854 4700

**MONKEY HOUSE** 30 Main St., W nooski 655-4563

**MONTY'S OLD BRICK TAVERN** 7921 Williston Rd. Williston 316-4212

**MUDDY WATERS** 184 Main St. Burlington 658-0488

**NECTAR'S** 188 Main St., Burl ngton 658 4771

**O'BRIEN'S IRISH PUB** 348 Main St. Winooski 338-4678

**OLDE NORTHENDER**, 23 North St., Burlington 864 3888

**ON TAP BAR & GRILL**, 4 Park St. Essex Jct. 878 3309

**ONE PEPPER GRILL**, 260 North St. Burl ngton 656 4800

**OSCAR'S BISTRO & BAR**, 190 Boxwood Dr. Williston, 878 7082

**PARK PLACE TAVERN** 38 Park St. Essex Jct. 878 3015

**RADIO BEAN** 88 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington, 660 9346

**RASPUTIN'S** 163 Church St., Burlington 864-9324

**RED SQUARE**, 136 Church St., Burlington, 859-8909

**REGULAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**, 84 Weaver St., W nooski 655 9899

**RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB** 123 Church St. Burlington 860 9401

**ADZZI'S LAKESHORE TAVERN**, 1022 W. Lakeshore Dr. Colchester, 863 2342

**BUREN JAMES** 159 Main St., Burlington, 864-0744

**SHELBURNE VINEYARD** 1308 Shelburne Rd. Shelburne 985-8222

**SIGNAL KITCHEN** 71 Main St., Burlington 399 2337

**THE SKINNY PANCAKE**, 110 Lake St. Burlington, 540 0178

**VENUE**, 127 Porters Point Rd., Colchester 310-4067

**THE VERMONT PUB & BREWERY** 144 College St., Burlington 865 0500

## CENTRAL

**BAGITO'S** 28 Main St. Montpelier 229-9212

**BIG PICTURE THEATER & CAFÉ** 48 Carroll Rd. Waitsfield 496-8364

**BREAKING GROUNDS** 245 Main St. Bethel 332-4222

**THE CENTER BARERY & CAFE**, 2007 Guptil Rd. Waterbury Center 244 7500

**CHARLIE O'S** 70 Main St. Montpelier 223 1420

**CIDER HOUSE BBQ AND PUB** 1675 Rte 2 Waterbury 244-8400

**CLEAN SLATE CAFÉ** 107 State St., Montpelier 225 1188

**CORK WINE BAR**, 1 Stowe St. Waterbury 882 8227

**ESPRESSO BUENO** 136 Main St., Barre 479 0898

**GREEN MOUNTAIN TAVERN** 10 Keith Ave. Barre 522-2935

**GUSTO'S** 28 Prospect St. Barre 476-7919

**HOSTEL TEVERE**, 203 Powderhound Rd., Warren 496-8222

**KISMET** 52 State St. Montpelier 223-8648

**KNOTTY SHAMROCK**, 21 East St. Northfield 485 4857

**LOCALFOLA SMOREHOUSE**, 9 Rt 7 Wa tsfield 496 5123

**MULLIGAN'S IRISH PUB**, 9 Maple Ave. Barre 479 5545

**NUTTY STEPH'S**, 3610 Rt. 2, Middlesex 229 2090

**OUTBACK PIZZA + NIGHTCLUB**, 64 Pond St., Ludlow 228 6628

**PICKLE BARREL NIGHTCLUB**, Killington Rd. Killington 422 3035

**THE PINES** 1 Maple St. Chelsea, 685-3344

**THE PIZZA STONE**, 291 Pleasant St. Chester 875 2121

**POSITIVE PIE 2**, 20 State St., Montpelier 223 0453

**PURPLE MOON PUB** Rt.100 Waitsfield 496 3422

**THE RESERVOIR RESTAURANT & TAP ROOM** 15 Ma n St., Waterbury 244-7827

**SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN**, 3180 German Flats Rd. Warren 583-2202

**TUPELO MUSIC HALL**, 1836 S Ma n St., White River Jct., 698 8341

**WHAMMY BAR** 31 W. County Rd. Calais 229-4329

## CHAMPLAIN VALLEY

**51 MAIN** 51 Main St. Middlebury 388 8209

**BAR ANTIDOTE** 350 Green St., Vergennes 877 2555

**CAROL'S HUNGRY MIND CAFÉ**, 24 Merchant's Row Middlebury 388 0101

**CITY LIMITS** 14 Greene St. Vergennes, 877-6316

**CLEM'S CAFÉ** 101 Merchant's Row Rutland 775 3337

**DAN'S PLACE**, 31 Main St Bristol 453-2774

**GOOD TIMES CAFÉ**, Rt. 116, Hinesburg, 482 4444

**ND'S BAR & RESTAURANT** 31 Main St. Bristol 453 2774

**ON THE RISE BAKERY** 44 Bridge St., Richmond 434-7787

**TWO BROTHERS TAVERN**, 88 Main St., Middlebury 388 0002

## NORTHERN

**BEE'S KNEES** 52 Lower Main St Morrisville, 888 7883

**BLACK CAP COFFEE** 144 Main St Stowe, 253 2123

**BROWN'S MARKET BISTRO** 1878 Scott Highway Groton, 584-4124

**CHOW! BELLA**, 28 N. Main St., St Albans 524 1405

**CLAIRE'S RESTAURANT & BAR** 41 Main St Hardwick, 472 7053

**COSMIC BAKERY & CAFÉ**, 30 S Main St. St. Albans 524 0800

**COUNTRY PANTRY DINER**, 951 Main St Fairfax, 849 0598

**CROP BISTRO & BREWERY** 1859 Mountain Rd., Stowe 253 4304

**GREY FOX INN** 990 Mountain Rd Stowe 253 8921

**THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB** 21 Lower Main St Johnson 635 7828

**THE LITTLE CABARET** 34 Main St Derby 253 3000

**MATTERHORN** 4989 Mountain Rd Stowe 253 8198

**THE MEETINGHOUSE** 4323 Rt 108 S Smugglers Notch 644-8851

**MOOG'S PLACE**, Portland St Morrisville 851-8225

**MUSIC BOX**, 147 Creek Rd Craftsbury 586-7533

**OVERTIME SALOON** 38 S Main St St. Albans 524-0357

**PARKEN PIE CO** 181 County Rd., West Glover 525 3388

**PHAT KATS TAVERN** 101 Depot St Lyndonville 626 3064

**PICCASSO** 1839 Mountain Rd., Stowe 253 4411

**RIMROCKS MOUNTAIN TAVERN**, 394 Mountain Rd., Stowe 253 9593

**ROADSIDE TAVERN** 218 Rt. 7 Milton 660 8274

**RUSTY NAIL BAR & GRILLE**, 1190 Mounta n Rd. Stowe 253 8245

**SHOOTERS SALOON** 30 Kingman St St Albans 527 3777

**SNOW SHOE LODGE & PUB** 13 Ma n St. Montgomery Center 326-4451

**SWEET CRUNCH BAKESHOP** 241 Ma n St., Hyde Park, 888 4882

**TAMARACK GRILL AT BURKE MOUNTAIN** 223 Shelburne Lodge Rd. E Burke 626-7394

**WATERSHED TAVERN** 31 Center St., Brandon 247 0100

**YE OLDE ENGLAND INNE**, 443 Mounta n Rd. Stowe 253 5320

## REGIONAL

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**NAKED TURTLE** 1 Dock St. Plattsburgh, N.Y 518-566 6200

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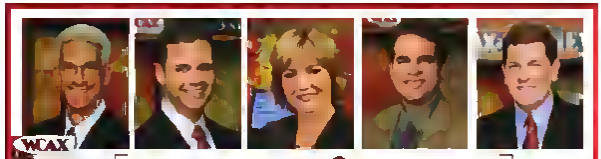
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# Sport Illustrated

"Andy Warhol's Athletes," Fleming Museum of Art







REVIEW

Andy Warhol's mortality didn't end a run of fame that has lasted way longer than the 15 minutes he famously predicted we would all one day enjoy. The prince of pop art remains an art world cynosure 26 years after his death at age 58; his work continues to evoke fervent responses, pro and con.

At any given moment, it seems, a Warhol show is on display somewhere in the world. Last year, for example, New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art staged an extravaganza highlighting Warhol's mighty impact on 60 mostly big-name artists over a half century. Some comments left on the show's website accused the Met of having defiled its mission by taking Warhol seriously as an artist. The work is 'such dreck," one of these detractors wrote. Other respondents praised the museum for honoring what one called 'the greatest American artist."

Warhol's current ubiquity is partly a product of the mountainous quantity of art he produced in many mediums. But one set of works — his Athletes Series — has seldom been shown since its completion in 1977. So it's a coup for the University of Vermont's Fleming Museum of Art to have been chosen as a venue for these silk-screen prints of 10 celebrity sports figures.

Warhol started the series with Polaroid portraits he shot in his Manhattan studio or in the athletes' homes, transformed them into prints and then splashed and slashed the 40-by-40-inch canvases with acrylic paint. His subjects include former New York Mets pitcher Tom Seaver, golfing great Jack Nicklaus, NBA all-time scoring leader Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and figure-skating Olympic gold medalist Dorothy Hamill.

**IT MAY BE TEMPTING TO DISMISS HIM**
**BECAUSE HE CHANGED VISUAL CULTURE IN A WAY THAT'S NOW SO OBVIOUS.**
**JANIE COHEN**

The show came to Burlington as a result of a collector's friendship with the family of current UVM student Lindsay Oliver. Banker Richard Weisman, who was one of Warhol's many wealthy patrons, agreed to lend one of the eight sets of Athletes prints to the Fleming. Weisman had, in fact, commissioned the whole series as an expression of his devotion to sports, art and Andy.

Fleming director Janie Cohen expects the show to draw crowds. "Warhol is one of the most important and influential artists of the 20th century," she notes. "It may be tempting to dismiss him because he changed visual culture in a way that's now so obvious. We've gotten so accustomed to the pop look." But, Cohen adds, that shouldn't lessen appreciation of Warhol's originality and "his ability to project into the future of the culture."

Visitors may react with a chortle and a chill to a moment in the show that does suggest clairvoyance. The wall text accompanying the portrait of O.J. Simpson notes Weisman's comment at the time of the photo shoot, 36 years ago, that the former football hero's five-day stubble growth made him "look like a criminal."

Warhol is said to have responded, "Maybe so, but he's so beautiful."

In the panel hanging alongside another print, Warhol is recalled as having gushed, "Tom Seaver is adorable. Athletes really do have their fat in the right places, and they're young in the right places."

Warhol appears to have regarded the Athletes Series mainly as an opportunity to flirt and fantasize. "Andy thought the sports stars were cute, so handsome — he just hoped they would have lunch with him the next day," Warhol pal Christopher Makos is quoted as saying in the introduction to the show. The artist was clearly no jock. It was Weisman who chose the 10 athletes to be memorialized, because Warhol "didn't know the difference between a football and a golf ball," the collector says in the intro.

Warhol also didn't know that golfers use clubs. Nicklaus reportedly got all huffy when the artist asked him to change the position of a "stick" with which he was posing.

Abdul-Jabbar, in contrast, was reportedly impressed by Warhol's erudition. As the retired LA Lakers center recounts in a wall text, Warhol told him that the canonical Brillo boxes and Campbell's soup cans were intended as "parodies of the nature of American pop culture." Abdul-Jabbar adds that he came to realize "how Warhol's images said something about who we are as a nation."

The art market also has something to say on that subject. One set of Warhol's Athletes Series was sold at Christie's auction house last year for $5.7 million.

KEVIN J. KELLEY

Andy Warhol's Athletes, Fleming Museum of Art, UVM, Burlington. Through May 19. uvm.edu/fleming

# ONGOING

## *burlington area*

**ABBY KELLER** Paintings by the local artist. Through March 31 at Red Square in Burlington. Info 318 2438.

**AMBER DEVOSS** "The Tempest Collection," brilliantly colored abstract paintings by the Vermont artist. Through March 31 at Fletcher Free Library in Burlington. Info 865 7211.

**CATHERINE HALL** "Recycled/Reborn," an exhibit of mixed media works by the Burlington artist. Through March 31 at Vintage Inspired in Burlington. Info 355 5418.

**COLIN WALSH** "The Family Landscape," photographs of the artist's family history. Through March 31 at All Souls Interfaith Gathering in Shelburne. Info 985-3813.

**CREATIVE COMPETITION #17** Artworks submitted by local artists in a variety of media are up for viewers' choice award and for sale. Through March 31 at Rt. Photo in Burlington. Info: publicartschool@gmail.com.

**DAVE SELLERS** "Fundamentals of Design," an exhibit by the eclectic Warren architect. Through March 31 at ArtsRiot Gallery in Burlington. Info 203 788-0909.

**DIANE D. BELL** "Watercolors Through the Year," impressionistic landscapes by the Weston painter. Through April 26 at Magnolia Breakfast & Lunch Bistro in Burlington.

**ODK WRIGHT** "Crescendo," large scale images by the Burlington photographer. Through April 5 at Burlington College. Info: 923 2335.

**EMERGING ARTISTS SHOW** This group exhibit features works in a variety of media by 14 local artists. Through March 30 at Davis Studio in Burlington.

**ERIC FITZGERALD** Art Affair by Shearer presents landscape photography by the Vermont artist. Through March 31 at Shearer Chevrolet in South Burlington. Info: 658 1111.

**GABRIELLE TSOUNIS** "Tzigane," oil and acrylic paintings inspired by the artist's world travels. Through April 1 at Vintage Jewelers in Burlington. Info: 862 2233.

**DALEN CHENEY** "Via della Spada," oil and enamel on three panels. Escalator: Kevin Ruelle. Vintage-looking Vermont posters, Gates T-Bar and Tod Gunter: Aviation themed illustrations, Skyway. Through April 30 at Burlington Airport in South Burlington. Info: 865 7166.

**GROUP EXHIBIT** Photography by Jacques Burke and Kristen Watson; paintings by Marie LaPrie Grabon and Leslie McCool; mixed media work by Maria Anghelache and Alan Arnold; collage work by Elizabeth Nelson and Erika Lawler Schmidt; and sculpture by Janet Van Fleet. Through April 30 at Maltex Building in Burlington. Info: 865-7166.

**GROUP SHOW** Works by Marc Awodey, Carolyn Enz Hack, Paige Berg Rizvi, Ruth Hamilton, Will Patnove, Che Schreiner, David Powell and Ethan Azarian. Curated by SEABA. Through May 31 at The Innovation Center of Vermont in Burlington. Info: 859 9222.

**NAL MAYFORTH** "Subversive in His Own Little Way," watercolors, abstract acrylics, word paintings, grid paintings and humorous paintings that originated in the artist's sketchbooks. Through May 11 at Amy E. Tarrant Gallery, Flynn Center in Burlington. Info: 652-4510.

**HIGH TRASH** Artworks from 18 contemporary artists using discarded materials address themes of waste, environment and consumerism in the age of climate change. Through May 24 at Fleming Museum, UVM, in Burlington. Info: 656-0750.

# TALKS & EVENTS

**"THE NATIONAL POSTER RETROSPECTICUS"** A DJ spins and drinks flow at this one-night-only exhibit of 300 hand-printed music and event posters from around the country. Wednesday, April 3, 7-11 p.m. at Select Design in Burlington. Info: john@jpboneyard.com.

**17TH ANNUAL CREATIVE REUSE SHOWCASE** Area high school students show what clever artwork can be fashioned from trash in this yearly exhibit, in conjunction with the Chittenden Solid Waste District. Through March 23 at Frog Hollow in Burlington. Talk, closing awards ceremony: Thursday, March 28, 6-7 p.m. Info: 863-6458.

**"TREASURES FROM THE SHELDON"** A new curation of 19th-century objects, art and ephemera from the museum's permanent collection. Through April 22 at Sheldon Museum in Middlebury. Director Bill Brooks leads a gallery talk, Wednesday, March 27, noon-1 p.m. Wednesday, April 3, noon-1 p.m. Info: 388-2117.

**"FOOLS, GOLD, ART AUCTION & PINK & BLUE FOOLS PARADISE BALL"** Phinn Sonin hosts the annual auction; the ball features live music by Tinker Taylor, Steady Betty and the Hokum Brothers. Monday, April 1, 5 p.m.-midnight, 242 Main, Burlington.

**"USEFUL AND ELEGANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS"** Landscape drawings by 19th-century Norwich University alumni and their contemporaries, many of whom were involved in the Civil War. Through June 30 at Sullivan Museum & History Center, Norwich University, Northfield. Norwich alum and art collector Robert Guptill gives a presentation called "An Introduction to 19th Century Norwich Artists." Light lunch is provided. Wednesday, March 27, noon-1 p.m. Info: 485 2183.

**CURATORIAL CANDIDATE PRESENTATION** Debora Wood, one of several candidates for new curator of the Fleming, gives a talk called "Birds on Paper: A Survey of the Digital Print." Friday, March 29, 11:45 a.m., Fleming Museum, UVM, Burlington. Info: 656-0750.

# RECEPTIONS

**FOUR PHOTOGRAPHERS** Robin Katrick, Tinne Wilson Mellisa Thebarge and Laina Johnson show their works. Through March 29 at Arts Alive Gallery in Burlington. Reception: Friday, March 25, 5-7 p.m. Info: 660 9005.

**CYNTHIA E. FRANTZ.** "Garden of My Heart," still life photographs that explore the sacred feminine. Through March 30 at Shelving Gears Gallery in Montpelier. Reception: Saturday, March 30, 2-4 p.m. Info: 793-7654.

**MUD(SEASON)** A group show featuring local artists celebrates the year's most cautiously optimistic season." March 29 through April 26 at ArtisTree Community Arts Center & Gallery in Woodstock. Reception: Friday, March 29, 6-8 p.m. Info: 457 3500.

**"SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE A CLOUD"** A showcase of student work from the Creative Expression Program. Through April 5 at Living/Learning Center, UVM, in Burlington. Reception: Wednesday, March 27, 6-8 p.m. Info: 656-2085.

**"LABOR OF LOVE"** Created by Vermont Works for Women with the Vermont Folklife Center, the touring exhibit features 25 photographs of women with various occupations. Through April 10 at Burlington College. Reception: Thursday, March 28, 5-7 p.m. Info: 655-8922.

**CLARK DEBBES & SARAH HOGNE** In concurrent solo shows, "Time Travelers" and "Lines in Winter," respectively, the artists show shape-shifting painted wood sculptures, and energetic graphite and charcoal drawings. March 30 through May 15 at West Branch Gallery & Sculpture Park in Stowe. A reception includes a gallery talk by Rachel Moore of the Helen Day Art Center; food and live music by Bobby Farlice Rubio. Saturday, March 30, 6-8:30 p.m. Info: 253 8943.

**PETER FRIEO** "Looking at Landscape," paintings and drawings informed by the 19th-century realist and plein-air traditions of Europe and North America. **ALEX ANGIO** "New Summer Paintings," works by the Argentina-born artist. March 28 through May 13 at River Arts Center in Morrisville. Reception: Thursday, March 28, 5-7 p.m. Info: 888 1261.

**COMMUNITY ART EXHIBIT** Work in a variety of media. March 30 through April 15 at ROTA Gallery in Plattsburgh, N.Y. Reception: Saturday, March 30, 5-7 p.m. Info: 518 314-9872.

**DEBORAH FRAHKEL REESE** "Yellow and Blue: From Here to There," oil paintings of forsythia and ocean views from Nantucket and Barnegat Light, N.J. March 28 through May 15 at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. Reception: Thursday, March 28, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Info: 765-4679.

**JILL MADDEN** "Northern Landscapes," oil paintings inspired by the local woods, water, snow and mountains. Through April 27 at Left Bank Home & Garden in Burlington. Info: 862 1001.

**JOHANNE OUROCNER YORGAN** Dreamy abstract paintings by the Vermont artist. Curated by SEABA. Through May 31 at VCAM Studio in Burlington. Info: 859 9222.

**JOHANNE OUROCNER YORGAN** Contemplative acrylic paintings that represent change and evolution in the artist's life. Through March 30 at Studio 266 in Burlington. Info: 578 2512.

**JUDITH TUTTLE & ROBERT HUNTOON** Watercolors, pastel and oil paintings respectively by the Vermont artists. Through May 30 at Shelburne Vineyard. Info: 985-8222.

**KAROL KAWIAKA.** Contemporary abstracted paintings. Through March 29 at SEABA Center in Burlington. Info: 859-9222.

**KATHERINE TAYLOR-MCBROOM** Ordered Chaos. What Lies Behind the Façade: assemblages and collages that draw upon the artist's experiences growing up in the South. April 2 through 30 at Studio 266 in Burlington. Info: 578-2512.

**LARGE WORKS** Artworks that measure at least three feet in one direction. Through April 20 at Soda Plant in Burlington. Info: 578 2512.

**LIGHT SNOW** Metal sculpture by Bruce R. MacDonald; woodcuts by George Peterson and kinetic, floating clouds by Gordon Auchincloss. Through March 31 at Havoc Gallery in Burlington. Info: 800 639-1869.

**LIN WARREN** "Road Trip: Architectural Ideologies," a multi-media installation exploring the form of an arc. Through May 29 at Flynndog in Burlington. Info: 777 6100.

BURLINGTON AREA SHOWS » P72

**VISUAL ART IN SEVEN DAYS**
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Charlie will teach you how to safe guard your garden from deer, woodchucks, rabbits and other furry foes!

**April 6 • 9:30–11:00am**
**The Magic of Fruit Trees**
*Charlie Nardozzi*
Fruit trees make a bountiful and delicious addition to your landscape. Learn how to choose the right one for your space and taste.

**April 9 • 5:30–7:00pm**
**Pruning**
*Charlie Nardozzi*
Learn about the proper equipment, timing and techniques to care for your trees and shrubs. Weather permitting, we'll do a hands-on demo outside.

**April 13 • 9:30–11:00am**
**Art of Growing Food**
*Ellen Ogden*
Ellen will teach you basic kitchen garden design, including choosing the right beds, building paths, adding personality, garden tools and organic methods to build your soil.

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BURLINGTON-AREA SHOWS « P71

**LIZA COWAN** Saki Pug for Fun," photographs of the artist's dogs. Through March 31 at Artspace 106 at The Men's Room in Burlington. Info: 864-2068.

**"LOST AND FOUND"** A group photography exhibit, curated by Davy Rothbart of "This American Life" and *Found* magazine, explores that which has been lost, rediscovered and forgotten. Through March 31 at Darkroom Gallery in Essex Junction. Info: 777-3686.

**MARIA PROVIDENCIA CASANOVAS & LISA HAMILTON** Providencia Casanovas creates images that explore how we build identity with regard to others. Hamilton constructs images, sculptures and short videos that question the limits of perception and the relationship between spectator and visual object. Through April 12 at Colburn Gallery in Burlington. Info: 656-2014.

**MARK BOEDGES** An exhibit of new winter landscape paintings by the Vermont artist also includes scenes of other seasons. Through March 31 at Mark Boedges Fine Art Gallery in Burlington. Info: 733-7317.

**NICHOLAS TAYLOR** "Jean-Michel Basquiat: An Intimate Portrait," photographs of the artist at 19 taken by his friend and fellow frequenter of Manhattan's famed Mudd Club. The exhibit is on loan from Niagara University's Castellani Art Museum. Through March 30 at Bailey/Howe Library, UVM in Burlington. Info: 656-3294.

**OCEANIC ART AND THE PERFORMANCE OF LIFE** Intricately crafted objects, including masks, textiles and weaponry from indigenous cultures of the Pacific Islands. Through May 24 at Fleming Museum, UVM in Burlington. Info: 656-0750.

**RICK NORCROSS** "Photographs: The Faces of Rock and Roll 1969-1974." Images from Janis Joplin to Johnny Cash shot by the Vermont musician as a young music journalist. Through April 5 at Village Wine and Coffee in Shelburne. Info: 983-8922.

**SACHIE KONLMAN** Pet portraits on paper. Through May 31 at Firebird Café in Essex Junction. Info: 310-0456.

**"SEAT'S TAKEN"** An exhibition that aims to examine human interaction: question the way we navigate the world and challenge our reactions to the unfamiliar, uncomfortable and different. Through April 5 at BCA Center in Burlington. Info: 865-7166.

**"STORMY WEATHER"** Heavy skies and ominous storms inspired the artworks in this group exhibit in multiple media. Through March 30 at S.P.A.C.E. Gallery in Burlington. Info: 578-2512.

**TREVOR SULLIVAN** Vermont-inspired paintings on old windows. Through April 30 at Fiddlehead Brewing Company in Shelburne. Info: 308-523-7476.

**WENDY JAMES** Photographic illusions and vivid paintings by the local artist. Created by SEABA. Through May 31 at 3peeder & Earl's (Pine Street) in Burlington. Info: 833-9222.

**WILLOW BASCOM** Colorful illustrations of animals. Curated by SEABA. Through May 31 at Pine Street Deli in Burlington. Info: 859-9222.

## *central*

**1861-1862: TOWARD A HIGHER MORAL PURPOSE** An exhibition exploring the experiences of Norwich University alumni who fought in the Civil War. Through June 30 at Sullivan Museum & History Center, Norwich University in Northfield. Info: 485-2183.

**BARBARA LERER** Seasons of the Year," acrylic paintings on board with the theme of color and light. Through March 30 at Contemporary Dance & Fitness Studio in Montpelier. Info: 229-4676.

**CHERIE STAPLES & MARILYN WINGERSKY** The sisters, members of the Art Resource Association, exhibit photographs and watercolors, respectively. Through April 6 at City Center in Montpelier. Info: artresourceassociation.com.



**Dok Wright** Burlington photographer Dok Wright has been wowing viewers with his gorgeous, large-scale nude images. His current exhibit, titled "Crescendo," at the Gallery at Burlington College, presents a collection of his work from 2004 to 2013 — photos that elegantly capture light and shadow as well as human forms so exquisite they almost look like sculptures. On view through April 10. Pictured: "Figura-Kambukantha."

**ELIZABETH BILLINGS** Kinetic" paintings relating to the motion of material bodies and the force of energy. Through April 2 at Felch Fine Arts Center, Green Mountain College in Poultney. Info: 287-8398.

**FIONA SULLIVAN** "Shades of Pussy" watercolor paintings of flowers. Through March 30 at Tulsi Tea Room in Montpelier. Info: 223-0043.

**"JURIED MEMBERS SHOW"** A group exhibit featuring works small and large in a variety of media by 33 regional artists. Through March 30 at BigTown Gallery in Rochester. Info: 767-9670.

**GLEN COCHRAN NUTCHESON** Paintings, drawings and sculpture by the Montpelier artist. Visitors are invited to drop by Monday through Friday, 3-6 p.m., and be the subject of a "talking portrait," a life-size pencil drawing. Through July 31 at Storefront Studio Gallery in Montpelier. Info: 839-5349.

**"HE, SHE CAN REALLY DRAW A LINE"** A group exhibit of works curated from Mark Waskow's Waskowmuseum that examine line quality. Through March 30 at ORCA Media in Montpelier. Info: 223-0432.

**"HOW PEOPLE MAKE THINGS"** In a hands-on exhibit inspired by "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," visitors can make objects using four manufacturing processes: molding, cutting, deforming and assembly. Lab coats and safety glasses available! Through June 2 at Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich. Info: 649-2200.

**"IN THE ETE OF THE BEHOLDER"** Paintings by three Vermont artists — Anne Unangst, Marcia Hill and Cindy Griffith — interpreting the same landscapes. Through March 31 at Governor's Office Gallery in Montpelier. Info: 229-4326.

**JEANETTE FOURNIER** Realist bird-focused watercolors by the New Hampshire artist. Through March 31 at VINS Nature Center in Quechee. Info: 359-5000.

**JENNIFER SKINDER** Abstract drawings and monotypes influenced by the artist's background in ceramics. April 1 through May 30 at Skinny Pancake in Montpelier. Info: 262-2233.

**JOYCE HATOEN & NANCE SILLIMAN** "Resiliency" assemblage boxes, collages and paintings by Hayden; paintings and mixed-media work by Silliman. Through April 13 at Nuance Gallery in Windsor. Info: 674-9616.

**"LEGENDARY LANDSCAPES"** Works by Union Elementary School second graders inspired by Chinese landscape paintings. Through March 31 at Montpelier City Hall. Info: 229-9416.

**"LIGHT & SPACE"** Work by printmakers Sabra Field and Dan O'Donnell; fiber artist Karen Madden and sculptor Pat Musick. Through May 10 at The Great Hall in Springfield. Info: 885-3061.

**LIT TYLER.** "Memories of an Unconscious Nothing," artwork by VTC's director of institutional research. Through May 31 at Hartness Gallery, Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center. Info: 728-1237.

**MICKI COLBECK** "Underwater" large oil paintings by the Vermont artist that reflect the blue planet's liquid in its many guises. Through April 30 at Vermont Supreme Court Lobby in Montpelier. Info: 765-4456.

**"MOLD MAKERS"** A group show of artwork made from and relating to the mold-making process. Main Floor Gallery, Norwich University Students' Five years of lo-fi works, Second Floor Gallery and Theodore Geraldi, "Hidden" paintings and sculpture, Third Floor Gallery. Through April 6 at Studio Place Arts in Barre. Info: 479-7069.

**NATHAN VAUGHAN** "Glass Cat Presents," digital prints of album covers for fictitious bands on the artist's fictitious label. Through March 29 at Local 64 in Montpelier. Info: 595-0605.

**"PLOWING OLD GROUND: VERMONT'S ORGANIC FARMING PIONEERS"** Black and white documentary photographs by John Nopper along with narratives collected in oral history by agricultural writer Susan Harlow. Through June 1 at Vermont History Museum in Montpelier. Info: 479-8319.

**ROBERT GOLD** "Embracing Change" multimedia photorealist images in vivid colors by the Vermont artist. Through April 30 at Spotsight Gallery in Montpelier. Info: 828-3291.

**SANAM ERFANI** "Liberata" photography and mixed-media works expressing life's inspirations. Through March 31 at Green Bean Visual Art Gallery at Capitol Grounds in Montpelier. Info: curator@capitolgrounds.com.

**"SURVIVAL SOUP"** Collage painting and mixed-media work by Randolph artists Travis Dunning, Matthew Riley and Seth Tracy and White River Junction artist Ben Peberdy. Through April 30 at Main Street Museum in White River Junction. Info: 356-2776.

**"TWO RIVERS PRINTMAKING FACULTY SHOW"** Masterful prints by more than a dozen member and nonmember instructors. Through April 30 at Two Rivers Printmaking Studio in White River Junction. Info: 291-5901.

**WENDY HACKETT-MORGAN** "Animals Art Figures Too" mixed-media works that explore the human mind's ability to see images in everything. Through April 26 at Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier. Info: 223-3338.

## *champlain valley*

**CAROLYN SHATTUCK.** Works created by layering individual monoprint plates over one another to create subtle environments of color, pattern and line. Through April 1 at Brandon Music. Info: 463-4071.

**"CASTLETON FACULTY SHOW"** Works in a variety of media by 13 college art faculty. Through May 17 at Castleton Downtown Gallery in Rutland. Info: 468-1266.

**LIBBY HILLHOUSE** "Parallels" photographic portraits paired with text drawn from interviews with Vermonters living below the poverty line. Through March 30 at Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury. Info, 388-4964.

**"LINEAR THINKING: SOL LEWITT, MODERN, POSTMODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART FROM THE COLLECTION"** A LeWitt drawing installed by students (through May 5). **"NATURE TRANSFORMED: EDWARD BURTYNSKY'S VERMONT QUARRY PHOTOGRAPHS IN CONTEXT"** Iconic photographs exhibited with, in the context of the geological and social history of the area, including the Italian immigrant stoneworkers in the granite quarries near Barre (through April 22). At Middlebury College Museum of Art. Info, 443-3168.

**MARC AWODEY** "Painting IS the Object," a selection of figurative paintings by and in tribute to the late artist and *Seven Days* art critic. Through April 5 at Christine Price Gallery, Castleton State College. Info, 468-1266.

**MEMBERS' SHOW** "Vermont Scapes" works in a variety of media that reflect the beauty of Vermont. Through April 30 at Brandon Artists Guild. Info, 247-4356.

**PETE SUTHERLAND** The well-known Vermont folk musician is earning a second reputation for his cut-paper artworks, on display here in a number of colorful collages. Through March 29 at WalkOver Gallery & Concert Room in Bristol. Info, 453-3188.

**STU HALL & CALEB FOSTER** "Snapping Snowflakes": images of the frozen stuff by two local photographers following in the footsteps of Snowflake Bentley. Through April 30 at Mt. Mansfield Community Television in Richmond. Info, 434-2550.

**"THE BLUE SWANS: SEVEN WOMEN ARTISTS"** Works in a variety of media by local artists Kiara Caliguth, Linda Hampton Smith, Molly Hawley, Patty Ledon Herb, Phoebe Stone, Sarah Wesson and Yingjie Zhang. Through March 31 at Jackson Gallery, Town Hall Theater in Middlebury. Info, 388-1435.

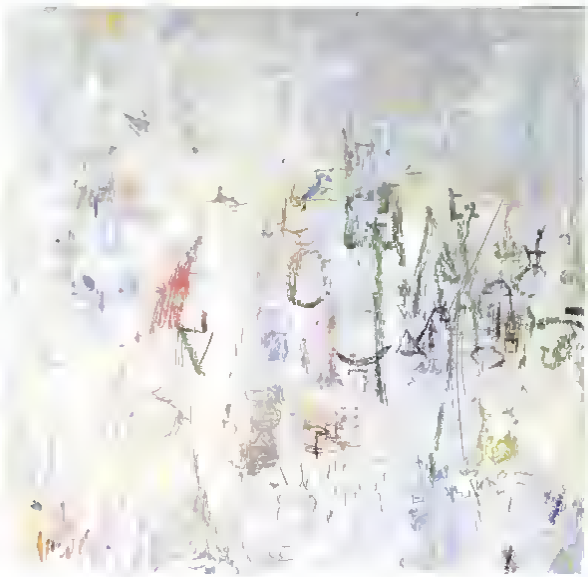
## *northern*

**ADRIEN "YELLOW" PATENAUDE** "Yellow Vistas" landscape paintings by the Newport painter. Through April 14 at Emile A. Gruppe Gallery in Jericho. Info, 899-3211.

**AMANDA VELLA** Boldly colored abstract paintings by the local artist. Through March 31 at Merchants Bank in South Hero. Info, dupasquier@aol.com.

**CHRIS STEARNS & DALEN CHENEY** Art photographs and colorful abstract paintings, respectively, in the Upstairs Gallery. Through March 31 at West Branch Gallery & Sculpture Park in Stowe. Info, 253-8943.

NORTHERN SHOWS » P74



**Kelly Holt** Kelly Holt is a painter who seems to find joy in spontaneous gesture. Her exhibition, "I Walk the Line," at the Green Goddess Café in Stowe, consists of abstract works that exhibit a flair for texture, line and color. "I am interested in experimentation — the boat that was missed becomes my map," says Holt in an artist statement. "I try to capture a feeling of the moment before something is about to happen." On view through April 30. Pictured: "Walking Barefoot 14."







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**4.5 | Poetry Slam with Geof Hewitt**
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# art

NORTHERN SHOWS « P73

**CLARK DERRES** Prehistoric Art of the Future.. Today" Two and three-dimensional geometric pa nted works by the Burlington artist Including a wall collaboratively painted with JSC students. Through April 13 at Julian Scott Memorial Gallery Johnson State College Info 635-1469

**'CLICK! A PHOTOGRAPHER S VIEW OF VERMONT'** The gallery s first-ever photography exhibit features pa nterly images in black and wh te and color by 75 juried artists Through March 31 at Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville Info 644-5100

**CONVERSATIONS IN CLOTH** Quilted works by June Bugbee and friends Through April 30 at Jericho Center Town Hall Info 899 2974.

**CURTAINS WITHOUT BORDERS EXHIBIT** Photographs by Carolyn Bate s of some of the 180 19th century theater curtains retrieved and restored by project director Chris Hadsel Through March 31 at Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville Info 644-5100

**'GRACE PAST AND PRESENT'** A group exhibit of artists represented by the community arts organization Through April 25 at GRACE in Hardwick. Info, 472 6657

**JAN TICHY** Installation No 6 (tubes)" an artwork of sculpture and light that references urban landscape architecture and human activity as light pulses, crawls and glows through paper tubes Through April 14 at Helen Day Art Center in Stowe. Info 253 8358

**KELLY HOLT** "I Walk the Line " mixed media paintings. Through April 30 at Green Goddess Café in Stowe Info 253 5255

**LYDIA CORROW & MATHEW PURDUE** Summer of Change" interpretations of landscape by the Vermont artists Through April 22 at Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild Backroom Gallery n St. Johnsbury Info 748-0158

**MARY ANN OUFFY GOODIN** 8 rds Blooms and Vintage watercolor pa ntings by the Vermont artist. Through April 17 at Bent Northrop Memorial Library in Fa rfield Info 827 3945

**PAM TURNER.** Paintings in acrylic and mixed media Through April 1 at Parker Pie Co in West Glover Info, 525 3366

**PAMELA TURNER.** Acrylic, oil and mixed-media works April 1 through 30 at Newport Natural Foods and Montgomery s Cafe in Newport. Info 755-6758.

**SECOND TUESDAY ARTISTS GROUP EXHIBIT** Pa ntings by artist friends Alex Bottinelli Liz Nelson Maggie Neale, Kathy Stark and Ann Young. Through March 31 at Cla re s Restaurant & Bar in Hardwick. Info 586-8076

**'SOURCE GUILD OF VERMONT FURNITURE MAKERS'** An exh bition of f ne furn ture by Vermont craftspeople w th a focus on the source of all the elements that collaborate to make the final piece. Through April 14 at Helen Day Art Center in Stowe Info 253-8358

**STEPHEN HUNECK** Working Dogs," prints of Sally the curious Labrador by the late artist, in conjunc tion with a Courageous Conversation lecture about women and girls. Through April 30 at Catamount Arts Center in St. Johnsbury Info 800-449-2580

## CALL TO ARTISTS

**ADIRONDACK COAST ARTWAYS PROJECT** Artists are encouraged to apply In their medium of choice including but not limited to paint ink, pencil mixed media, textiles mosaics, glass photography collage fiber art and graphic art High resolution jpegs (no less than 300 dpi) should be submitted by 5 p.m. May 5 to gallery@plattsburgharts org

**ONE WORD GROUP ART SHOW** Th s year the word is fly We prov de the panels which will be mailed or picked up $10 to participate Opening June 1 at Penny Cluse Cafe Register online at http //bit.ly/WHZaAi

**AREA ARTISTS** Artists are inv ted to submit one example of the r best work to be included in Chandler Gallery's perenn ally popular Area Artists Show $10 participation fee The gallery takes a 30 percent commis sion on sales but work does not have to be for sale Drop off work on Sunday April 7 4-6 p m., or Monday April 8 3 5 p m Info chandler-arts.org

**SWEETEN YOUR PALETTE** Village Frame Shoppe & Gallery is seeking artwork with a maple theme for display April 23 through May 24 Info vfframeshop com/index.cfm/call to-art sts/ or 524 3F99

**TELL US A TALE** This two floor show at Studio Place Arts is inspired by children's literature including stories, poetry and songs Deadline April 26 Exh b t Dates June 4 through July 6. Info, studioplacearts com.

**OUTDOOR ART DAY** Calling area artists artisans and crafters to a fun day creating art outdoors May 18 All ages, skill levels and media welcome Bring friends your own supplies and set up at designated sites Registration 8 a m., at the M lton Grange Reception 3 5 p.m. Sponsor Milton Artists Guild Pre reg ster chernystreetstudio@yahoo com

**VERMONT BIRD ART NEEDED** Do you do birds? The B rds of Vermont Museum and the Vermont Center for Ecostudies are collaborating on an exhibit for th s year a t the Birds of Vermont Museum The art we seek is ready to hang and is at least 10 by 10 inches Deadline April 5 Details at goo gl/1GsZo

**WE ARE FAMILY' SUBMIT NOW** Calling for photo submissions Deadline April 27 Juror Chris Verene. Say cheese! Capture the characters that make your family truly one of a kind Info darkroomgallery com

**ART+SOUL** Art+Soul brings artists and nonprofits together to celebrate our creative community! In 2013 the beneficiary is ECHO and we want to see your Lake Champlain watershed inspired artwork sold at a 50/50 fundraiser this June Visit artandsoulvt org for more details Deadline May 3.

**BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD JURY 2013 PHOTO SLAM** Darkroom Gallery s calling photographers of all ages students amateurs and pros for the 2013 Champlain Valley Photo Slam. Deadline, April 24 darkroomgallery com/ex42/

**ART OF CREATIVE AGING** Juried exh b t featuring recent work of older (70+) visual artists living in central Vermont. Send digital submissions to mharmon@cvcoa org by March 30 Info 476-2681

**OPEN GROUP SHOW AT "CREATIVE COMP"** First Friday every month $8 entry fee limit 1 per artist. No rules any s ze/media/subject. Entries accepted Wednesday through first Friday 9 a m 5 p m Opening reception on first Fridays, 6 p m. 9 p m Peoples choice winner gets cash prize Exhibit up for month. Location Post Gallery at RL Photo 27 Sears Lane Burlington For info call 540 3081 or email publicartschool@gmail com

**TRICK OF THE EYE EXHIBIT** Calling for submiss ons Optical illusions conjured by a variety of processes from studio setups to spontaneously captured works that inspire the question How did they do that? Deadline April 3 Juror Benjamin Von Wong More nfo at submissions@darkroomgallery com darkroomgallery com/ex41



## Catherine Hall

Spring is the season of regeneration, so it's apt that Burlington artist Catherine Hall calls her latest exhibit "Recycled/Reborn." This month at Vintage Inspired Lifestyle Market, she presents an eclectic collection of mixed-media, cast and encaustic pieces that transform discarded dolls and toys into quirky works of art. "I attempt to give them new lives and a wider range of expressions so that they might resonate with adult viewers as well as with children," Hall says of her misfit materials. "They are about remembered emotions, fantasy and fairy tales." On view through March 31. Pictured, "Red Riding Rabbit."

**ZOE C. BOUCHER:** Souvenir Remix," an uncensored multimedia installation incorporating sculpture, photographs and works on paper by the VSC staff artist. In the Kahn Barn Gallery. Through April 8 at Vermont Studio Center in Johnson. Info: 635-2727.

### *regional*

**ART LAB EXHIBITION:** Work by adults with special needs who meet weekly for art classes at AVA Gallery and Art Center. Through May 31 at Courtyard by Marriott in Lebanon, N.H. Info: 603-448-3117.

**"PERU—KINGDOMS OF THE SUN AND THE MOON — IDENTITIES AND CONQUEST IN THE ANCIENT COLONIAL AND MODERN ERAS":** A collection of pre-Columbian treasures and masterpieces, many of which have never been seen outside Peru. Through June 16 at Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Info: 514-285-1600.

**"TONY BENNETT: THE ART OF ANTHONY BENEDETTO":** Watercolors, sketches and paintings by the world-renowned singer. Through April 14 at Galerie of the Maison du Festival Rio Tinto Alcan in Montreal. Info: 514-288-8882.


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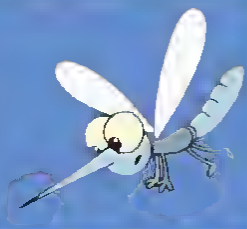
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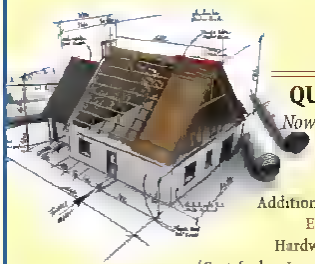


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# Olympus Has Fallen ★★★½

There's a difference between stupid and dumb. A stupid movie just takes your money and wastes your time. It's a business plan on a big screen. But a dumb movie can be triumphant, even transcendent in its joyful idiocy.

*Olympus Has Fallen* is such a film. It does *Die Hard* better than *Die Hard* and is the definition of a guilty pleasure. Directed by Antoine Fuqua (*Training Day*) and seemingly scripted by the Three Stooges, it is big and dumb and more fun than a barrel of Bruce Willises.

How great is it? When you leave, you actually like Gerard Butler again. All the stupid rom coms, plus whatever the hell *Chasing Mavericks* was supposed to be, are forgiven. Traditionally, this degree of career rehabilitation could be achieved solely through absolution by Oprah.

Butler plays Secret Service agent Mike Banning, a one-time member of President Benjamin Asher's (Aaron Eckhart) security detail banished to a desk job so the commander in grief won't be reminded daily of a personal tragedy his bodyguard was unable to prevent.

The agent gets his shot at redemption when All Hell Breaks Loose in the capital. Literally. One hundred percent of the available hell. And part of what makes the mayhem so entertaining is the way the filmmaker doesn't even bother pretending it's not 100 percent preposterous.

Among the events that could never happen except in a dumb action thriller: A plane descends from the clouds above D.C. and proceeds to shoot down Air Force fighter jets, strafe stampeding citizens and obliterate computer-generated tourist attractions. The slo-mo crumbling of the Washington Monument uncomfortably mirrors images from 9/11. Too soon? Not for Fuqua.

Outside the White House, a busload of armed foreigners awaits a signal. Inside the president and his staff greet a delegation from South Korea, a motley crew that appears to have gotten fashion tips from a Colombian drug lord. They so don't give off diplomatic vibes that we barely blink when the bad guys rush from the bus to storm the place, and the "South Koreans" reveal themselves to be North Korean terrorists on a mission to destroy the USA. Step one: Take the president and a gaggle of cabinet members hostage.



BONDING AGENT
Butler is back in form as a one-man army on a mission to save his pal, the president. Oh, and the world.

I'll reveal no more about their evil plan except that the head terrorist is a humorless fanatic played by Rick Yune, a former model who played a humorless fanatic in *Die Another Day*. That was probably good training for the part, though I doubt it prepared him for the scene where he opens up an unchivalrous can of whoop-ass on Secretary of Defense Melissa Leo.

It's weird. The guy blows up half of Washington, but it's watching him kick Leo's character around like a rag doll that really whets our appetite for the climactic death match between him and the movie's hero. That didn't count as a spoiler, right?

With Dennis Rodman nowhere to be found, it falls to Banning to deal with the North Koreans, and he does so with just the proper blend of snark and carnage. The odds are laughable, but, hey, this isn't math class. It's a retro exercise in jingoism arriving at an opportune historical moment.

We love seeing terrorists get what they deserve as much as ever, but we've lost our appetite for large-scale military intervention. So the national mood is ripe for a good, old-fashioned one-man war (even if a Scotsman happens to be standing in for the usual butt-kicking American standing in for the viewer). It's a thing of totally bonkers beauty, the height of schlock and awe.

Or at least, I think it is. We won't know for sure until June, when Channing Tatum stands in for Butler and does the whole thing all over again in Roland Emmerich's *White House Down*.

**RICK KISONAK**

## REVIEWS

# Admission ★★★½

Audiences have been shunning Tina Fey's new vehicle, and it's not hard to guess why. *Admission* is not the cookie-cutter romantic comedy its marketing suggests. (Fey plays an uptight overachiever! Paul Rudd plays a mellow fellow! Watch him loosen her up with hijinks involving a pregnant cow!) More dramedy than comedy, the movie is too subtle and downbeat to be a crowd pleaser, and its main character is an unapologetic smarty pants.

Yet *Admission* isn't smart enough to join the ranks of superior romantic comedies that people remember because they actually cared whether the characters got a happy ending. Its director, Paul Weitz, once made such a movie — 2002's *About a Boy*, a compelling character study (courtesy of novelist Nick Hornby) of a happily single thirtysomething who starts rethinking his choices when a kid wanders into his life.

*Admission* has virtually the same blueprint. Fey plays Portia Nathan, an admissions officer at Princeton with a ruthlessly organized work life and a tidy relationship with a professor (Michael Sheen) who, like her, doesn't want children. Angling for a promotion, Portia visits an alternative high school where a freewheeling teacher (Rudd) introduces her to a student (Nat Wolff) he thinks is perfect for Princeton. We soon learn the teacher has an ulterior motive. He believes the boy is the son Portia gave up for adoption 17 years ago.

Is Rudd's guerrilla mission to reunite mother and son sweet, or just intrusive and creepy? Either way, it seems insultingly obvious where *Admission* will go from here. Faced with her grown offspring and the demise of her passionless relationship, Portia will discover her maternal instinct and fall in love with Rudd in the process.

That's pretty much what transpires, though Weitz and screenwriter Karen Croner manage to make it less eye roll inducing than the summary suggests. Far from a stereotypical unfeeling professional, Portia genuinely cares about the kids whose applications she shepherds through the draconian admissions process. Convinced one of those kids is *hers*, she directs all her efforts toward one goal: getting him into Princeton.

It's a silly goal, something the movie never acknowledges. (Take this from an Ivy grad. There *are* other schools out there.) Furthermore, Portia's scenes with her mom (Lily Tomlin), an old-school feminist who preaches against commitment, tell us our heroine's problems go too deep to be solved by her frenetic efforts to give her kid a prestigious BA. But those problems never quite burst to the surface. Nor do Rudd's issues with his own patrician mother (Lisa Emery), which could have made his character darker and more interesting.

As a result, *Admission* feels timid and tepid with both Rudd and Fey going through quirk-comedy beats they could handle in their sleep. It's Tomlin who snatches laughs with her feminist doyenne, who's horrendously doctrinaire yet perversely likable. She has the passion and outrageousness the movie needs more of: a film all about her and Emery's Lucille Bluth-esque matriarch might have been hilarious.



FLAWED COUPLE
Fey approaches love with her eyes open in Weitz's sort of romantic comedy.

As it is, *Admission* is ... well intentioned. The filmmakers make a sincere effort to go beyond the Hollywood meet-cute and confront the problems with commitment that Generation X inherited from the restless parents of the 1960s and '70s. Weitz has material for a heavy drama or a searing black comedy, but he never drives his characters' conflicts to the point of an ugly — or funny — explosion. They're very *nice* people, but we all know "nice" isn't enough to get you into Princeton.

**MARGOT HARRISON**

## NEW IN THEATERS

**G I JOE: RETALIATION** Retaliation for what? Honestly, we don't remember what happened in the first *G I Joe* but Dwayne Johnson is on board this time the president is trying to terminate the super soldier program, and there will be explosions. With Channing Tatum, Bruce Willis and Adrianne Palicki. Jon M. (*Step Up 3D*) Chu directed. (110 min. PG-13. Bay Picture. Bijou [3-D] Capitol [3-D] Essex [3-D] Majestic [3-D] Marquis [3-D] Palace [3-D] Roxy. Stowe)

**THE HOST** Stephenie Meyer's only non-*Twilight* bestseller asked, If an alien parasite took over your body, would it still be in love with your boyfriend? Andrew (*In Time*) Niccol directs the film version of the sci-fi romance and Saoirse Ronan, Max Irons and Diane Kruger star. (120 min. PG-13. Essex, Majestic, Roxy. Palace. Paramount)

**TYLER PERRY'S TEMPTATION** A marriage counselor finds her own marriage in jeopardy when she's tempted by a handsome billionaire in the latest drama directed and scripted by (who else?) Tyler Perry. Jurnee Smollett-Bell, Vanessa Williams and Brandy Norwood star. (111 min. PG-13. Essex)

## NOW PLAYING

**ADMISSION★★½** In this comedy, Tina Fey plays an uptight Princeton admissions officer who suspects she's discovered the son she gave up for adoption at an alternative school. With Paul Rudd and Nat Wolff. Paul (*About a Boy*) Weitz directed. (107 min. PG-13)

**AMOUR★★★★★** Jean-Louis Trintignant plays an elderly man struggling to care for his beloved wife (Emmanuelle Riva) as she experiences dementia in this Oscar-nominated drama from director Michael (*Caché*) Haneke. With Isabelle Huppert. See review this issue. (127 min. PG-13)

**THE CALL★★** Halle Berry plays a 911 operator who finds herself up against a serial killer after she takes a call from an abductee in this thriller from Brad (*The Machinist*) Anderson. With Abigail Breslin and Morris Chestnut. (95 min. R)

**THE CROODS★★★** In this animated family adventure, a prehistoric family explores the wide world after they're forced out of their comfy cave. With the voices of Nicolas Cage, Ryan Reynolds and Emma Stone. Kirk De Micco and Chris (*How to Train Your Dragon*) Sanders directed. (98 min. PG)

**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH★★½** The scary aliens are us in this family animation about a heroic astronaut from the planet Baab (voiced by Brendan Fraser) who responds to a distress call from Earth. With Rob Corddry, James Gandolfini and Sarah Jessica Parker. Cal Brunker directed. (90 min. PG)

**GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL** See preview this week in our movie review section, and schedule at gmffestival.org. (Savoy and other Montpelier venues, through March 31)

**IDENTITY THIEF★★** Jason Bateman vs. Melissa McCarthy? Our money's on the lady with the smart mouth. In this comedy from director Seth (*Horrible Bosses*) Gordon, he's the mild-mannered victim of identity theft; she's the con artist. With John Cho and Amanda Peet. (111 min. R)

**THE INCREDIBLE BURT WONDERSTONE★★** A superstar magician (Steve Carell) tries to rekindle his faith in his craft in this comedy involving many sparkly costumes, much like *Blades of Glory*. Also starring Jim Carrey, Steve Buscemi, James Gandolfini, Alan Arkin, Olivia Wilde and Jay Mohr. Don Scardino directed. (101 min. PG-13)

**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER★½** Once upon a time, a studio set out to make yet another fairy tale retelling but didn't like its namby-pamby original title. Jack and the Beanstalk. Nicholas Hoult plays Jack, sure to be one badass user of magic beans. With Ewan McGregor and Stanley Tucci. Bryan (*Valkyrie*) Singer directed. (114 min. PG-13)

**LIFE OF PI★★★★** Ang Lee directed this adaptation of Yann Martel's best-selling novel about a zookeeper's son who finds himself adrift in a boat with an assortment of hungry animals. Starring Adil Hussain, Irrfan Khan and Suraj Sharma. (126 min. PG)

**OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN★★★½** The president (Aaron Eckhart) has been kidnapped by terrorists, and only a disgraced ex-secret serviceman (Gerard Butler) can save him in this thriller from director Antoine (*Training Day*) Fuqua. With Morgan Freeman and Angela Bassett. (119 min. R)

**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL★★½** The trend begun by Tim Burton's *Alice in Wonderland* continues with this eye-candy prequel to *The Wizard of Oz* in which the titular magician, played by James Franco, tries to find his niche in a fantasy world. With any luck, director Sam Raimi drew on the rich and wacky stores of L. Frank Baum's other Oz books. With Rachel Weisz and Michelle Williams. (131 min. PG)

**QUARTET★** Dustin Hoffman directed this comedy-drama about a British retirement home full of former opera musicians, where the arrival of a diva (Maggie Smith) stirs up old rivalries and resentments. With Tom Courtenay, Pauline Collins and Billy Connolly. (95 min. PG-13)

**SAFE HAVEN★½** Young woman with dark secrets, picturesque Southern setting, soulful widower, offering new love, seaside montages, staring, staring, staring. That's a guess at what you'll find in this Nicholas Sparks adaptation starring Julianne Hough, Josh Duhamel and Cobie Smulders. Directed by Lasse Hallstrom. (115 min. PG-13)

**SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK★★★★** Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence play two people with degrees of mental illness who forge an oddball bond in this dark romantic comedy from director David O. (*The Fighter*) Russell. With Robert De Niro, Jacki Weaver and Chris Tucker. (122 min. R)

**SPRING BREAKERS** Vanessa Hudgens and Selena Gomez play college girls who land behind bars after staging a heist to finance their Florida vacation. Luckily — or not — they're bailed out by a shady character in this crime comedy from Harmony Korine. With Ashley Benson and James Franco. (94 min. R)

## *ratings*

★ = refund, please
★★ = could've been worse, but not a lot
★★★ = has its moments, so-so
★★★★ = smarter than the average bear
★★★★★ = as good as it gets

RATINGS ASSIGNED TO MOVIES NOT REVIEWED BY **RICK KISONAK** OR **MARGOT HARRISON** ARE COURTESY OF METACRITIC.COM, WHICH AVERAGES SCORES GIVEN BY THE COUNTRY'S MOST WIDELY READ MOVIE REVIEWERS.

NEW ON VIDEO » P 79

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# SHOWtimes

( ) = NEW THIS WEEK IN VERMONT TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
FOR UP TO DATE TIMES VISIT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/MOVIES**

## BIG PICTURE THEATER

48 Cornell Rd. (off Rte. 100), Waitsfield 496-8334, bigpicturetheater.info

*wednesday 27 — thursday 28*
**The Croods** 5 7 (Wed only)
***G I Joe: Retaliation** Wed 7 Thu 6 **Quartet** Wed 3

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
**The Croods** Fri and Sat 5 7 Sun 1 5 7 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** Fri 5 30 8 Sat and Sun 1 5 30 8

## BIJOU CINEPLEX 4

Rte. 100, Morrisville, 888-329-2, bijou4.com

*wednesday 27 — thursday 28*
**The Croods 3D** 4 **The Crassis** 6 30 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** 4 ***G I Joe: Retaliation 3D** Wed 6 50 7 Thu 4 6 50 **Jack the Giant Slayer** Wed 4 **Olympus Has Fallen** 4 7 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 4 6 40

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
**The Croods 3D** 4 **The Croods** Fri 6 30 8 15 Sat 1 20 6 30 8 15 Sun 1 20 6 30 Mon to Thu 6 30 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** Fri and Sat 4 9 Sun to Thu 4 ***G.I Joe: Retaliation 3D** Fri 6 50 Sat and Sun 1 50 6 50 Mon to Thu 6 50 **Olympus Has Fallen** Fri 4 6 40 9 Sat 1 40 4 7 9 Sun 1 40 4 7 Mon to Thu 4 7 **Oz The Great and Powerful** Fri 4 6 40 9 Sat 1 10 4 6 40 9 Sun 1 10 4 6 40 Mon to Thu 4 6 40

## CAPITOL SHOWPLACE

93 State St., Montpelier 229-0343, fpbtheaters.com

*wednesday 27*
**Admission** 6 20 9 ***G I Joe: Retaliation 3D** 7 9 15 **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** 6 25 9 **Olympus Has Fallen** 6 15 9 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 6 10 9

*thursday 28 — thursday 4*
**Admission** Fri 6 20 9 Sat and Sun 12 25 3 10 6 20 9 Mon to Thu 6 20 9 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** Fri 6 15 Sat and Sun 5 15 6 15 Mon to Thu 6 15 ***G I Joe: Retaliation 3D** Fri 9 Sat and Sun 12 15 9 Mon to Thu 9 **Identity Thief** Fri 9 Sat and Sun 5 15 9 Mon to Thu 9 **Olympus Has Fallen** Fri 6 15 9 Sat and Sun 12 20 3 10 6 15 9 Mon to Thu 6 15 9 **Oz The Great and Powerful** Fri 9, Sat and Sun 12 15 9 Mon to Thu 9 **Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D** Fri 6 10 Sat and Sun 3 15 6 10 Mon to Thu 6 10 **Silver Linings Playbook** Fri 6 20 Sat and Sun 12 30 6 20 Mon to Thu 6 20

## ESSEX CINEMAS & T-REX THEATER

21 Essex Way #300, Essex 878-6543, essexcinemas.com

*wednesday 27 — thursday 28*
**Admission** 12 20 2 40 5 7 20 9 40 **The Call** 12 40 2 50 5 7 10 9 20 **The Croods 3D** 12 15 2 30 4 45 7 9 15 (Thu only) 9 25 (Wed only) **The Croods** 1 3 15 5 50 7 45 **Escape From Planet Earth** 4 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** Thu 12 15 2 25 4 35 6 45 9 ***G I Joe: Retaliation 3D** Wed 7 9 45 Thu 1 3 10 5 20 7 30 9 40 ***The Host** Thu 9 **Identity Thief** 3 45 8 45 (Wed only) **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** Wed 12 25 2 40 4 55 **Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** 1 10 6 15 **Olympus Has Fallen** 1 20 4 6 40 9 20 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 3 15 6 8 45 **Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D** 1 15 4 6 45 5 50 **Safe Haven** 12 45 **Silver Linings Playbook** 1 15 6 25 9

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
**Admission** 12 20 2 40 5 7 20 9 40 **The Call** 12 40 2 50 5 7 10 9 20 **The Croods 3D** 12 15 2 30 4 45 7 9 15 **The Croods** 1 30 3 45 6 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** 12 15 2 25 4 55 6 45 9 ***G I. Joe: Retaliation 3D** 1 5 10 5 20 7 30 9 40 **The Host** 1 50 4 15 7 8 45 **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** 6 50 **Olympus Has Fallen** 1 20 4 6 40 9 20 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 5 45 9 20 **Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D** 1 6 30 ***Tyler Perry's Temptation** 1 15 4 6 45 9 20

## MAJESTIC 10

190 Boxwood St. (Maple Tree Place, Taft Corners), Williston, 878-2010, majestic10.com

*wednesday 27 — thursday 28*
**Admission** 1 10 3 50 7 9 35 **The Call** 12 30 2 40 4 50 7 10 9 25 **The Croods 3D** 12 2 20 3 4 40 7 05 9 20 **The Croods** 1 3 40 **Escape from Planet Earth** 12 50 ***G I Joe: Retaliation 3D** Wed 7 9 30 Thu 1 3 45 7 9 50 ***The Host** Thu 9 **Identity Thief** 3 20 6 30 9 10 **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** Wed 1 20 4 30 7 05 9 30, **Jack the Giant Slayer** Wed 6 20 8 50 Thu 6 20 **Olympus Has Fallen** 1 15, 4 6 50 9 55 **Oz The Great and Powerful** Wed 2 50 Thu 2 50 6 30 **Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D** 12 40 5 30 6 40 9 50 **Safe Haven** Wed 12 20 Thu 12 20 6

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
**Admission** 1 20 4 20 7 9 50 **The Call** 12 20 2 50 4 40 7 10 9 25 **The Croods 3D** 12 10 2 50 4 45 7 10 9 25 **The Croods** 1 30 6 25 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** 5 50 6 20 8 50 ***G.I Joe: Retaliation 3D** 12 2 25 4 50 7 15 9 40 ***The Host** 1 10 4 6 40 9 50 **Identity Thief** 5 20 8 40 **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** 12 40 6 10 **Life of Pi 3D** 12 50 **Olympus Has Fallen** 1 4 10 6 50 9 55 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 5 40 8 30 **Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D** 12 30 3 50 6 30 9 20

## MARQUIS THEATRE

Main St., Middlebury, 388-4841

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
**The Croods** Fri 6 50 8 30 Sat 2 4 6 50 8 50 Sun 2 4 7 Mon to Thu 7 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** Fri 6 50 Sat 2 6 50 Sun 2 ***G I Joe: Retaliation 3D** Fri 9 Sat 4 9 Sun 4 7 Mon to Thu 7 **Olympus Has Fallen** Fri 6 50 9 Sat 1 30 4 6 30 9 Sun 1 30 4 7 Mon to Thu 7

*Full schedule not available at press time*

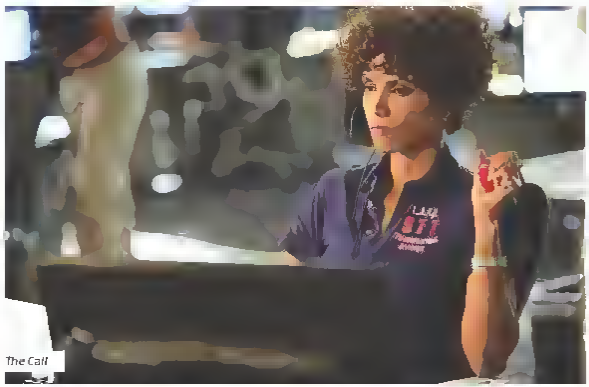
## MERRILL'S ROXY CINEMA

222 College St., Burlington, 864-3456, merrillstheatres.net

*wednesday 27 — thursday 28*
**Admission** 1 25 4 10 6 50 9 15 **Amour** 1 05 6 10 ***G.I Joe: Retaliation** Thu 1 05, 4 15 6 55 9 20 ***The Host** Thu 9 **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** Wed 3 40 6 50 **Olympus Has Fallen** 1 15 3 50 6 30 9 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 1 10 5 45 6 20 9 05 **Silver Linings Playbook** 1 20 4 6 40 9 10 (Wed only) **Spring Breakers** 1 5 5 7 9 20

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
**Admission** 1 25 4 10 6 50 9 10 ***G I Joe: Retaliation** 1 05 4 15 6 55 9 20 **The Host** 1 20 4 6 40 9 15 **Olympus Has Fallen** 1 15 3 50 6 30 9 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 1 10 3 45 6 20 9 05 **Spring Breakers** Fri to Wed 1 5 5 7 9 20 Thu 1 5 5 9 20 ***Tattoo Nation** Thu 7

*** See website for details.*


*The Call*

## PALACE 9 CINEMAS

10 Fayette Dr., South Burlington, 864-5610, palace9.com

*wednesday 27 — thursday 28*
**Admission** 1 10 4 7 9 20 **Argo** 1 05 6 15 **The Croods** 12 45 1 20 3 5 30 5 05 7 10 9 15 **Escape From Planet Earth** 1 15 ***G I Joe: Retaliation 3D** Wed 7 9 30 Thu 1 25 3 55 7 9 30 ***The Host** Thu 9 **Identity Thief** Wed 3 45 6 45, Thu 3 45 **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** Wed 1 25 5 55 **Jack the Giant Slayer** 6 10 8 40 **Olympus Has Fallen** 1 5 40 6 25 9 05 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 12 50 3 35 6 20 9 **Quartet** 12 55 3 50 5 40 8 50 **Silver Linings Playbook** 5 20 6 30 9 05

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
**Admission** 1 3 50 6 50 9 20 **Argo** 5 20 **The Croods** Fri to Tue 12 45 1 50 5 5 05 6 10 7 10 9 25 Wed 12 45 1 30 3 5 05 6 10 7 10 9 25 Thu 12 45 1 30 3 5 05 6 10 7 10 9 25 ***Get Joe: Retaliation** 12 45, 6, 8 30 ***G I Joe: Retaliation 3D** 1 25 4 10 7 9 30 ***The Host** 1 20 4 6 40 9 15 ****The Metropolitan Opera: Francesca da Rimini Encore** Wed 6 50 **Olympus Has Fallen** 1 10 3 50 6 30 9 10 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 12 50 3 35 6 20 9 **Silver Linings Playbook** 3 40 6 20 **Spring Breakers** 1 15 4 05 6 45 8 50

****See website for details*

## PARAMOUNT TWIN CINEMA

241 North Main St., Barre, 479-6621, lghtheatres.com

*wednesday 27 — thursday 28*
**The Croods 3D** 6 30 9 ***The Host** Thu 9 **Identity Thief** 6 50

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
**The Croods 3D** Fri 6 30 9 Sat and Sun 12 45 3 50 6 30 9 Mon to Thu 6 50 9 ***The Host** Fri 6 15 9 Sat and Sun 1 2 50 6 15 9 Mon to Thu 6 15 9

## THE SAVOY THEATER

25 Main St., Montpelier, 229-0509, savoytheater.com

*wednesday 27 — sunday 31*
**Green Mountain Film Festival**

*Full schedule not available at press time*

## STOWE CINEMA 3 PLEX

Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-4678, stowecinema.com

*wednesday 27 — thursday 28*
***G I Joe: Retaliation** Wed 7 **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** 7 **Oz The Great and Powerful** 7 **Silver Linings Playbook** 7

*friday 29 — thursday 4*
***G I Joe: Retaliation** Fri 7 9 10 Sat 2 50 7 9 10 Sun 4 30 7 Mon to Thu 7 **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** Fri 7 9 10 Sat 2 30 7 9 10 Sun 4 30 7 Mon to Thu 7 **Oz The Great and Powerful** Fri 7 9 10 Sat 2 50 7 9 10 Sun 4 30 7 Mon to Thu 7

## WELDEN THEATRE

104 N. Main St., St. Albans, 527-7888, weldentheatre3.com

*Schedule not available at press time.*

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## NEW ON VIDEO

**THE COLLECTION★★** The *Saw* franchise may be dead, but fans could find more of the same in this horror flick about a rich dude determined to rescue his daughter from a "maze of torture" presided over by a psychopath. With Christopher McDonald, Josh Stewart and Emma Fitzpatrick. (91 min. R)

**KILLING THEM SOFTLY★★★** Brad Pitt plays a mob hitman in this darkly comic thriller based on a George V. Higgins novel and updated to the 2008 recession. With Richard Jenkins and Ray Liotta. Andrew (*The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*) Dominik directed. (98 min. R)

**LINCOLN★★★★★** Steven Spielberg directs this look inside Honest Abe's cabinet during the Civil War as the president (Daniel Day-Lewis) works to gather the political capital to pass the 13th Amendment. Playwright Tony Kushner scripted. With Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Tommy Lee Jones and Sally Field. (150 min. PG)

**PARENTAL GUIDANCE★★** Billy Crystal plays a grumpy Gramps enlisted to babysit his spoiled grandkids in this comedy also starring Bette Midler and Marisa Tomei. Andy (*The Game Plan*) Fickman directed. (100 min. PG)

**A ROYAL AFFAIR★★★½** This Danish period drama tells the true story of young Queen Caroline Matilda's affair with her royal physician (Mads Mikkelsen) in the late 1700s. With Alicia Vikander and Mikkel Boe Følsgaard. Nikolaj Arcel directed. (105 min. R)

## movies you missed



### 80: *Smashed*

**This week in Movies You Missed:** drinking, an indie film love story

Kate and Charlie (Mary Elizabeth Winstead and Aaron Paul) are a young married couple who like getting drunk together. Pass-out-and-wet-the-bed drunk. Charlie, who appears to be a part-time music journalist, doesn't think they have a problem, but Kate is starting to think she needs help. Perhaps the time she vomited while teaching a roomful of first graders and then had to cover for her condition by pretending to be pregnant was a clue.

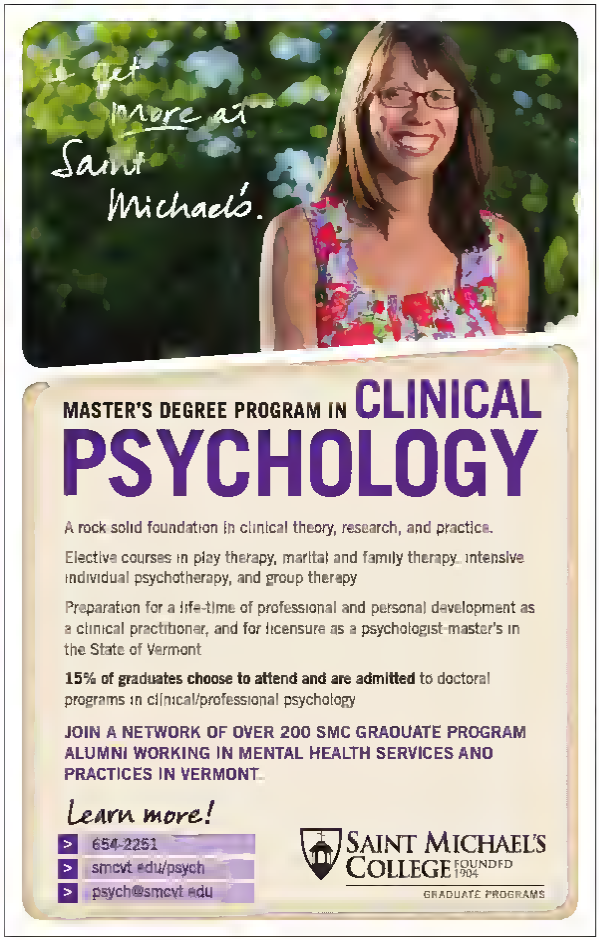
After a particularly nasty episode of drinking-while-biking, Kate starts attending AA meetings, where she finds an earthy sponsor (Octavia Spencer) and fends off the advances of a fellow teacher (Nick Offerman).

With Charlie still spending most of his evenings soused, the couple is finding they have less and less in common. Can their marriage survive her sobriety?

MARGOT HARRISON

Find the rest in our Movies section at **sevendaysvt.com**

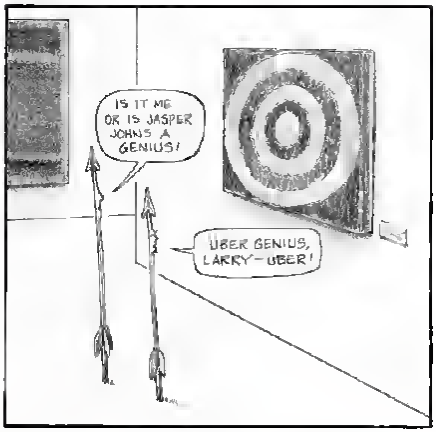




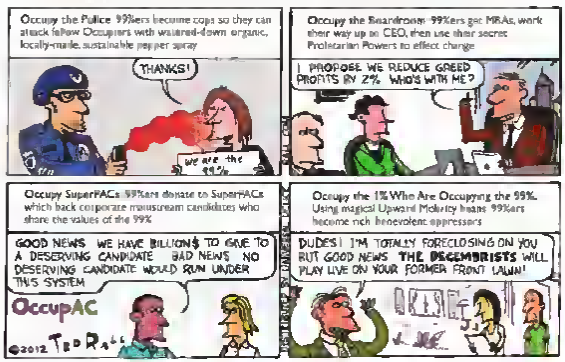

# FUN STUFF

## BLISS BY HARRY BLISS

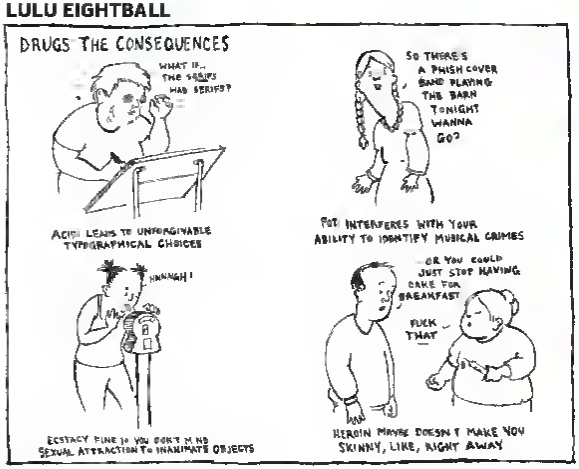



## TEO RALL

DEMOCRATS AND DEMOCRATIC FRONT GROUPS LIKE MOVEON.ORG ARE TRYING TO CHANNEL THE OCCUPY MOVEMENT BACK INTO THE SYSTEM WITH SUCH "ASTROTURF" ACTIONS AS "OCCUPY THE BALLOTBOX" AND "OCCUPY THE PRIMARIES." WHAT BIZARRE CO-OPTION SCHEMES CAN WE LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT?




## LULU EIGHTBALL

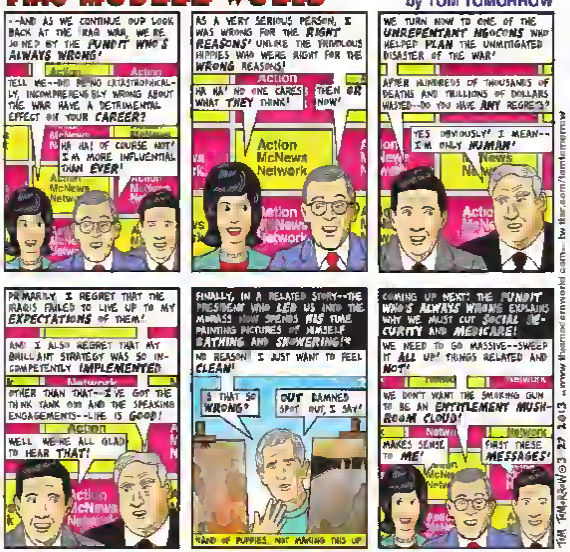



## THE K CHRONICLES




## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW




MORE COMICS » P82



## Aries

(March 21–April 19)

I was too lazy to write your horoscope this week, so I went to a website that hawks bumper stickers and copied a few of their slogans to use as your "advice." Here you go: 1. Never follow a rule off a cliff. 2. Have the courage to honor your peculiarities. 3. It's never too late to have a rebellious adolescence. 4. Criticize by creating. 5. Never make anything simple and efficient when it can be elaborate and wonderful. 6. Complex problems have simple, easy to understand, morally clear, wrong answers. APRIL FOOL! I lied. I wasn't lazy at all. I worked hard to ensure that all the suggestions I just provided are in strict accordance with the astrological gestalt.

**TAURUS** (April 20–May 20) It's a perfect time to watch the cult classic film *Night of the Day of the Dawn of the Son of the Bride of the Return of the Revenge of the Terror of the Attack of the Evil, Mutant, Alien, Flesh Eating, Hellbound, Zombified Living Dead*. It will provide you with just the right inspiration as you deal with your own problems. APRIL FOOL! I lied. Don't you dare watch any horror movies. You're in a phase when you can make dramatic progress in transforming long-standing dilemmas—but only if you surround yourself with positive, uplifting influences.

**GEMINI** (May 21–June 20) The coming week will be an excellent time to wash dishes, clean bathrooms, scrub floors, vacuum carpets, wash windows, do laundry and clean the refrigerator. The more drudge work you do, the better you'll feel. APRIL FOOL! I lied. The truth is you now have astrological license to minimize your participation in boring tasks like the ones I named. It's high time for you to seek out the most interesting work and play possible.

**CANCER** (June 21–July 22) You know what would be a really cool prank to pull off this April Fools Day? Arrange to have rubber tires airlifted into a dormant volcano, then set them on fire. Smoke will pour out the top. Everyone who lives nearby will think the volcano is getting ready to explode. Don't forget to videotape the event for Youtube. Later, when you reveal the hoax, your video will go viral and you'll become a celebrity. APRIL FOOL! I don't really think you should try this prank. It's old hat. Back in 1974, a guy named Porky Bickar did it to Alaska's Mt. Edgecumbe. Here's my real oracle for you: It *is* a good time to boost your visibility by doing something funny. Or to build your brand by being mischievous. Or to demonstrate your power by showing off your sense of humor.

**LEO** (July 23–Aug. 22) In the animated TV show "The Simpson," 10 year-old Bart is constantly getting into trouble because of the monkey business he loves to perpetrate. His teachers punish him by compelling him to write corrective declarations on the classroom blackboard. It so happens that some of those apologetic statements should be coming out of your mouth in the coming week, Leo. They include the following: "I will not strut around like I own the place. I will not claim that I am deliciously saucy. I will not instigate revolution. I will not trade pants with others. I will not carve gods. I will not Xerox my butt. I will not scream for ice cream." APRIL FOOL! I lied. The truth is you SHOULD consider doing things like that. And don't apologize!

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) The sport of ferret legging is an endurance contest. Participants vie to determine who can last longest as a live ferret runs loose inside their pants. The current record is five hours and 26 minutes, held by a retired British miner. But I predict that a Virgo will soon break that mark. Could it be you? APRIL FOOL! I misled you. I don't really think you should put a ferret in your pants, not even to win a contest. It is possible, however, that there will soon be a pleasurable commotion happening in the area below your waist. And I suspect that you will handle it pretty well.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23–Oct. 22) Risk being a crazed fool for love, Libra. Get as wild and extreme as you've ever been if it helps you rustle up the closeness you're hungry for. Get down on your knees and beg, or climb a tree with a megaphone and profess your passion. APRIL FOOL! I was exaggerating a little. It's true that now is an excellent time to be aggressive about going after the intimate connection you want. But I suggest you accomplish that by being ingenious and imaginative rather than crazy and extreme.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23–Nov. 21) British comedy team Monty Python did a sketch in which a policeman apprehends a criminal. The bad guy says, "Yes, I did it, but society is to blame." And the cop says, "Right! We'll arrest them instead." You should adopt this attitude, Scorpio. Blame everyone else but yourself for your problems and flaws. APRIL FOOL! I lied. In fact, the truth is the opposite of what I said. It's time to take more responsibility for your actions. Bravely accept the consequences of what you've done—with your sense of humor fully engaged and a lot of compassion for yourself.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22–Dec. 21) Banzai skydiving is a step beyond ordinary skydiving. To do it, you hurl your folded up parachute out of the airplane, wait a while and then leap into mid-air yourself. If all goes well, you free-fall in the direction of your parachute and catch up to it. Once you grab it, you strap it on and open the chute, ideally before you hit the earth. This is the kind of beyond-ballsy activity that would be perfect for you right now. APRIL FOOL! In truth, I don't recommend banzai skydiving now or ever. Plain old skydiving is fine though. The same principle applies in relation to any adventurousness you're considering. Push yourself, yes, but not to an absurd degree.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22–Jan. 19) Should you relocate to Kazakhstan and grow sunflowers? Is it time to think about getting a job in Uruguay and living there for the next 10 years? Can you see yourself building your dream home in Morocco on a bluff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean? I suggest you spend some quality time thinking way, way outside the box about where you belong on this earth. APRIL FOOL! I went a bit overboard in my recommendations. It is true that you should brainstorm about the kind of home you want to create and enjoy in the future. But that probably means revising and refining your current situation rather than leaving it all behind and starting over.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20–Feb. 18) Your brain has a bigger capacity than you realize. According to professor of psychology Paul Reber, it can hold the equivalent of three million hours' worth of television shows. As I'm sure you know, your brain is not even close to being full of that much data. And in accordance with the current astrological omens, I suggest you cram in as much new material as possible. APRIL FOOL! I told you a half-truth. While it's correct that now is an excellent time to pour more stuff into your brain, you should be highly discerning about what you allow in there. Seek out the richest ideas, the most stimulating information, the best stories. Avoid trivial crap.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19–March 20) July 2012 was a sad time in the history of mythic creatures. The National Ocean Service, a U.S. government agency, made a formal proclamation that there are no such things as mermaids. But I predict those stuffy know-it-alls will soon get a big shock when a Piscean scientist presents evidence that mermaids are indeed real. APRIL FOOL! I was exaggerating. I don't really foresee the discovery of a flesh-and-blood mermaid—by a Pisces or anyone else. I do, however, suspect that your tribe is now highly adept at extracting useful revelations and inspirations from dreams, visions and fantasies—including at least one that involves a coven of Buddhist Ninja clown mermaids.





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Gaining Financial Control of Your Divorce

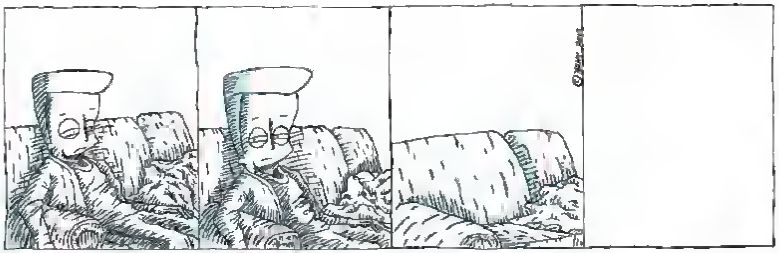
How do you know whether your divorce settlement will lead toward financial freedom or financial ruin down the road? Join us for a workshop on 4/2 or 5/7 at 5:30pm so we can show you how to help avoid some common financial mistakes people make during the divorce process.

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## Bill the Cockroach

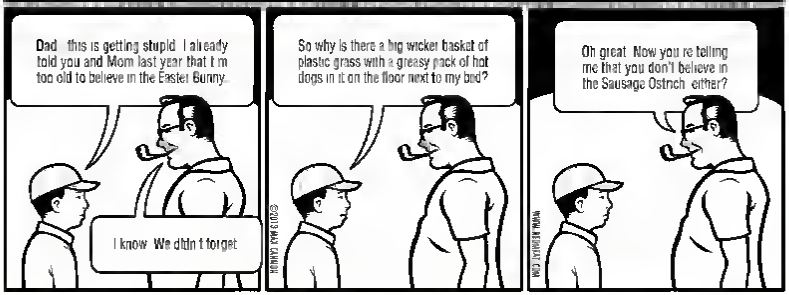
HENRY GUSTAVSON



## RED MEAT

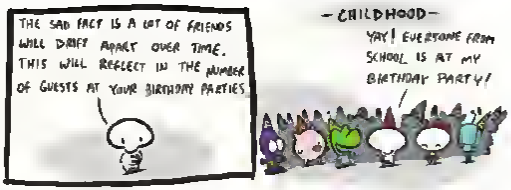
green fur on the comedy loaf

from the secret files of Max Cannon




## TINY SEPUKU © 2013

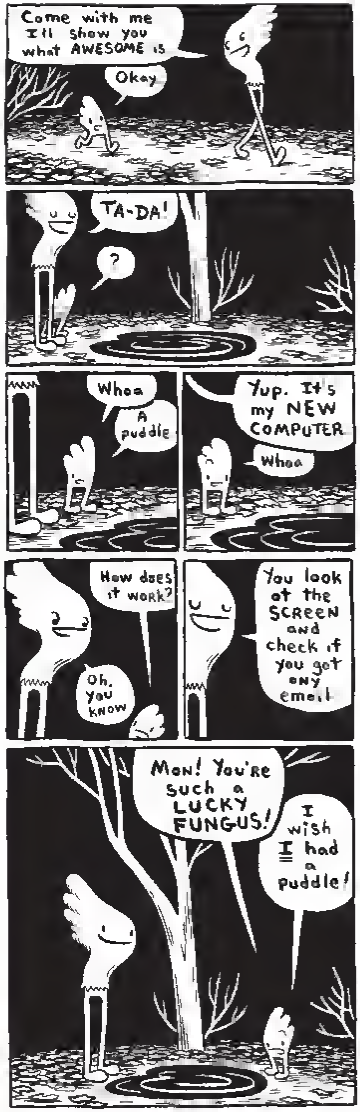
DEAR TINY,
MY 20TH BIRTHDAY PARTY IS COMING UP AND ONE OF MY FRIENDS WANTS TO COME, BUT SHE OFTEN BITCHES ME FOR HER BOYFRIEND. THIS HAS PUT A STRAIN ON OUR FRIENDSHIP. WHAT SHOULD I DO?
—FN
COLUMBIA, SC




@TINYSEPUKU  TINYSEPUKU@HOTMAIL.COM  TINYSEPUKU.COM

## FUNGUS

A COMIC STRIP BY JAMES KOCHALKA
(CARTOONIST LAUREATE OF VERMONT)
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TO BE CONTINUED...

MORE FUN! STRAIGHT DOPE (P24) SODOKU/CALCOKU (P C-4) & CROSSWORD (PC 5)

### Curses, Foiled Again!

Two weeks after someone stole Briana Priddy's wallet and used her identity to write bundreds of dollars worth of bad checks, Priddy was waitressing at a restaurant in Lakeland, Colo., when a woman came in with a group, ordered a drink and presented Priddy's stolen ID to prove her age. "But I didn't say anything," Priddy said. "I handed it back to her and said 'Sure, I'll be right back with your margarita.'" She called police, who arrested the 26-year-old woman. Noting the suspect is old enough to buy a drink with her own ID, police official Steve Davis declared, "Dumb criminal. That's the first [word] that comes to mind. We found some narcotics in this woman's possession, so she's in quite a bit of hot water (Denver's KUSA-TV)

### Coincidence of the Week

After Florida's Department of Transportation Secretary Ananth Prasad was ticketed for driving 44 miles per hour in a 35-mph zone on a Tallahassee street, the DOT raised the speed limit on the road to 45 mph. Prasad said the change occurred after the DOT conducted a study that showed the previous speed limit "was artificially constrained" (Florida's Capitol News Service)

### Second-Amendment Champions

After raising only $10 last year to buy new equipment, this year the Atwood-Hammond Little League enlisted the support of the Atwood Armory in Atwood, Ill., to raffle off an AR-15 military-style assault rifle. "It's for a good cause,' Atwood Armory co-owner Charidy Butcher said, "for the kids" (Decatur's WAND-TV)

### The Two-Wheeling Life

A bicyclists association that promotes safety objected to a measure in the Maryland House of Delegates that would require all cyclists to wear helmets. Shane Farthing, executive director of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, said mandatory helmet use might discourage people from riding bikes and that fewer bikes on the road could limit "the safety-in-numbers effect" (The *Washington Post*)

The Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment addressed the issue of bicycle safety by funding research by automaker TNO to develop an exterior airbag. It covers the lower portion of the windshield, creating a softer landing than a pane of glass for a human skull flying through the air at 25 miles per hour. A camera positioned beneath the rear-view mirror can determine if a vehicle is approaching cyclists or pedestrians, and sensors in the bumper activate the airbag if they detect contact. (TNO)

### Haberdashery Follies

When a police officer spotted a man walking along a street in Millville, N.J., with smoke coming from his jeans, the officer urged the man to take off the jeans to prevent injury. Lt. Ed Zadroga said the man refused, telling the officer it was too cold out. The man had to be taken to a hospital and then flown to a burn center. Zadroga said the fire probably started when vodka spilled out of a bottle in the man's pocket and was ignited by a lit cigarette. (*South Jersey Times*)

Police said a maintenance man at a Houston apartment building shot a man in the foot after the two argued for 30 minutes about the victim's missing pants. Sgt. M.D. Moses said Michael Jolivette, 32, accused the maintenance worker of taking his pants from an electrical box where he left them. (Houston's KPRC-TV)

### Ride of a Lifetime

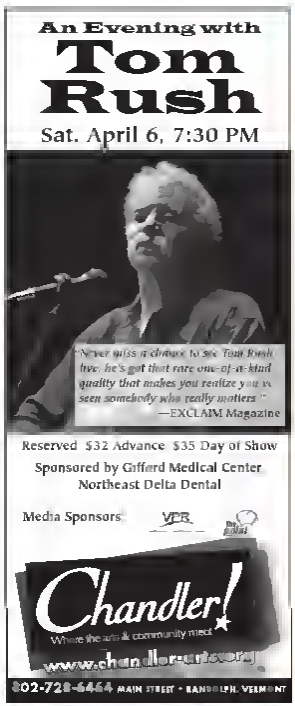
One man died and another was injured when the inflatable ball they were harnessed to while bouncing down a ski slope in Russia veered off course, careened along a jagged ridge and plunged over a precipice. It then picked up speed for almost a mile before slamming into rocks. The victims paid $10 to ride in the plastic ball, called a zorb. The accident at the Dombai ski resort followed a rash of winter-sports injuries, which prompted an investigation that found 50 unlicensed operations and guides on the mountain. (The *New York Times*)

### Small Consolation for the Egyptian American Community

The U.S. Census Bureau announced it is dropping the word "Negro," used since 1900 to describe black Americans in its surveys, in favor of "black" or "African American." (Associated Press)

### Kemo Sahe of the East

A Japanese lawmaker who goes by the name of Skull Reaper A-Ji was banned from attending sessions of the Oita City Assembly for refusing to remove his mask. A-Ji, who's also a professional wrestler, campaigned wearing the mask and was elected, but his fellow councilors declared it is inappropriate to conceal his identity and noted that he was violating a rule stating that "a person taking the floor shall not wear items such as a hat." A-Ji responded, "If I take my mask off, I'm an entirely different person." (*Time*)










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## WOMEN seeking WOMEN

**IRISH EYES ARE SHINING**
I am seeking a serious relationship with someone who is compassionate, open-minded, good at communication and willing/able to talk out disagreements without being defensive. Be loyal, honest and considerate; love to laugh; live, learn and grow. **Siren45, 45**

**BUILDING NEW LIFE, SEEKING HEART**
Seeking friend or partner. I like hiking as much as the next person. But also seeing a new city and learning new art forms. I have kindness, companionship, life experience and an open mind about the future to offer. I really enjoy men of integrity and heart. The time could be right to spend time with some amazing women too. **FreeIntheWater, 33**

**LET'S MAKE OUR OWN TRAIL**
Lover of animals, music and art of all persuasions, looking for someone who can roam the world with me and relish in new experiences. **SpiritFingers, 22,**

**OVERACTIVE IMAGINATION**
There's no such thing as an overactive imagination. I have a very creative mind and active body. It takes me time to open up to new people, but if you give me the time, maybe you'd like what you see in me. I love tools. I am opinionated, cynical, curious, both busy-bee-like and busy brain. Sparklers are for every holiday. **CreativeGenius, 48**

**LAID BACK, LOOKING FOR FUN**
Ok, here it is. I am 30 years old and finally ready to explore what I have kept inside for so long. I've had few experiences with women but timing wasn't right for me then; now ... different story. I am looking for pure fun. My situation is complicated enough; just looking for occasional dating and hot sex with hot women. **everythingamazing, 30**

**ARE YOU OUT THERE?**
I have a good heart. I like going on car rides and getting lost, not into roses and all that stuff. Happy. I like the simple things, looking for someone who will walk on the beach, hold my hand, one who isn't afraid to give me a hug or a kiss no matter where we are. **justme45, 45**

## WOMEN seeking MEN

**DOES ROBOT WITH CHARMING FREQUENCY**
Looking for lighthearted company and spontaneous fun companionship. Singer of top-40 and Motown tunes in the shower. Lover of teasing banter. Fan of open communication and Hill Farmstead brewery. **YesAsInGanghis, 27**

**COLORING OUTSIDE THE LINES**
A sense of humor, honesty, loyalty to friends and family and an inquisitive mind are important to me. Are you someone who sets stakes and moves toward them, has a passion for life, who dreams the dream that seems impossible and then works to make it come true? If so, let's chat. **UtopianResident, 63**

**KINDHEARTED, WITTY DOG LOVER**
I'm the calm in the eye of the storm, the anchor in rough seas. A bit of an introvert, once you get to know me you will see a warmhearted lady with a wicked sense of humor. Drama free and low maintenance. Somewhere between supermodel and not horribly disfigured! I'm worth the trouble! **SilverLinings, 61**

**WALK THE WOODS WITH ME**
I can split wood or parse a phrase. I like to study deep and travel far or near. I can darn socks and shear a sheep. I like my maple syrup grade B, but my Scotch single malt. Looking for a fellow traveler, comrade and mate. **Ilake, 61**

**LOOKING FOR YOU EOVER**
I am not into controlling, committed relationships but do want a man who knows what he wants in the right places and isn't afraid to tell me how and where. **emme18, 49**

**LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING**
I'm the kind of girl that will go hiking, make a snow fort for my nephews and change my own flat tire. I am looking for that guy. The one who makes me laugh using sarcasm. The type that finds wrestling me half the night more entertaining than going out for drinks. Tall, healthy and easygoing. **MTKnido, 27**


**CURIOUS?**

You read *Seven Days*, these people read *Seven Days* — you already have at least one thing in common!

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**It's free to place your own profile online.** Don't worry, you'll be in good company.

See photos of this person online.


**SWEET, SULTRY AND SELF-EFFICIENT**
Are you respectful, kind, fun and outdoorsy (and not just window shopping)? I have a weak spot for lumberjack types and men who read. I love kayaking, biking and paddleboarding. I enjoy abstract conversations about the universe, etc. and Grumpy Cat memes too. I'm artistic, expressive, passionate and curious. I'm tall and curvy. **vtgirl1988, 24**

**HUMOR WANTED**
Singing, dancing, listening to music, frequenting a coffee shop or having a glass of wine with a friend — these are my loves. I believe in community, spiritual and secular, and spend my time supporting the spirit of these. Bottom line: kindness with corny jokes as a foundation. **shorethecosmos, 62,**

**SWEET AND SASSY**
I'm 5'11" and weigh 210 lbs. and I'm from Barre. I'm 26 years old looking for a long term relationship and I have beautiful eyes and a nice smile. I have brown eyes and red hair and I'm an easy, outgoing person. I love to laugh and be outdoors. I have a great personality. **sexy26, 26**

**SWEET, SOFT AND SILLY**
I love to explore, travel, cuddle, get dirty, lift heavy and stay healthy. Dress me up and take me out or hike the highest mountain. I'm silly and fun. I like being with my close friends, feeding them and making them laugh. I am grateful for the family I have. I'm up for anything, love trying new things and can live in the moment. **MaryRose, 26,**

**HONEST, FUN & KIND**
Looking for someone to go out to dinner, movie or a long walk with. I am a mother of two. I own and operate my own business and work very hard. I am honest, kind and caring. If you are looking for some fun and great company, I just may be your person. **justme3, 48**

**SASSY, SPIRITUAL, INTELLEETUAL, SEEKS COMPLEMENT**
Smart, compassionate English professor seeks companion, complement and potential life partner. I am highly intuitive and empathic. I like to read, write and kick around the house but also love time with my friends. I'm interested in exploring alternative spiritual practices (tarot, yoga, meditation) and seek a partner who is interested in the same. Are you up to the challenge? **Writer_Reader, 38**

**LIVING LIFE**
I'm an easygoing person who loves to have fun. I'm looking for someone that enjoys being active and knows how to work and play hard. And a sense of humor is a must. **LiveHappy, 23**

## MEN seeking WOMEN

**NEW TO VERMONT**
Recently moved up to Vermont from Georgia with my job. Love it up here so far, although it's been challenging getting use to the climate. Grew up moving around a lot. Lived in England for two years and Australia for five. I consider Australia my home, as that is where I went to high school and graduated from. **jmhorrison87, 25**

**NICE TO MEET YOU!**
I'm honest, trustworthy, hardworking, open, have a good sense of humor and more. I like to travel, the beach, the outdoors, sharing time with my partner, friends and family. I'm looking for dating and possible long-term relationships. I'm not into games, so please only women that are serious about what they like or want in their life. I look forward to meeting you. **lndy500, 53**




**SEARCHING FOR FUN AND ADVENTURE**

I am a down-to-earth 22 year old who is constantly striving to learn and try new things with a light heart and an open mind. I am looking for someone who loves to laugh, eat, explore and has a great imagination. I am willing to try anything once and just want to dive into some fun! **HollySunshine, 22, Woman seeking Man.**

**My favorite date activity is:** Anything fun and spontaneous as long as it is filled with laughter

**TECHIE WOODSMAN**
I am better in person than in print. I am currently a little on the heavy side but am working on that. I am open-minded and enjoy new experiences. I like to be in the outdoors and spending time with friends. I am just looking for someone to share my time with. I hope you give me a chance. **ayeofre 36**

**ILLUSTRATOR LOOKING FOR A GAL**
I care about family, friends and the environment. I'm interested in architecture, old cars, old cartooning, nature, farming, books, history, tools etc. I'm kind of a gentleman, so I'm not good at having fun on my own. I need somebody to talk me into it! I like my animals and having a sense of humor are essential. **NH_cartoonist, 21**

**ADVENTUROUS AND OPEN-MINDED**
I just moved to this area and would love to meet new people, and am definitely open to a new relationship. I love traveling, exploring new areas and learning new things. I also really enjoy cooking great food and trying out new restaurants. I am easygoing and love being outdoors. **WorldTraveler21, 31**

**RELAX AND HAVE FUN!**
I'm new to Vermont, just moved here from Indiana, and I'm looking to get to know the place and the people. I love to experience new things and can't wait to start my life here in Burlington. Looking for anyone who wants to hang out and have a good time; grab a beer, see a band, watch a movie, whatever. **MusicMan1990, 22,**

**HEY, LOOK AT ME**
I'm just a great guy looking for someone to share my awesomeness with; that doesn't sound too conceited, does it? Well I assure you, if given a fair shot I will prove awesomeness and win your heart. I dare you to give me a shot. Good job, my own apartment and car. **Randomnickname, 28**

**HUNTING/FISHING, BEING OUTDOORS, BIKING**
Need to get out and do things again. Spend most of my life outside. If I can. Doing most anything if I have someone to do it with. Live on the east side of the state. Anyone around here? Not a young man anymore, but am active and able to get it done. **twinfielder73, 57**

## MEN seeking MEN

**BI NOW GAY LATER**
Bi married male seeking other gay or bi men for fun times and friendship. **Inguy69, 35**

SEVEN DAYS

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## WOMEN Seeking?

**DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN ... OR MARY!**
Or any other woman or female couple interested in discreet encounters/play. Curvy Eurasian bi woman, d/d free, looking for someone to remind me of my sexuality. A man can only do so much. I like trying new things and can be taught. I'm looking for discretion and will offer it in return. **allMyFriend 35,** ☐

**TENDER ADVENTUROUS SEXPOT**
Having great connections with people is one of the most satisfying things in life, though I value my autonomy and independence very much. Are there others out there like me? I'm vibrant, smart, sensual, engaging, GGG, funny, no-nonsense, open-minded, beautiful, sexy and physically active. Looking for casual sex with a confident, compassionate man who can give and receive well. **anahata104 45** ☐

**SEXY SPOT**
Committed couple. Wife looking to enjoy another woman. Hubby enjoys watching. **anna 40**

**WHAT IS YOUR SAFE WORD?**
If you are in need of domination from an attractive woman, email me. Please have a brain. Check back for updates to my profile. **MistressOctavia 35** ☐

**INSATIABLE. LOOKING FOR NEW ADVENTURE**
I am seeking a lovely to have mind-blowing experiences with. Or a sexy couple to fulfill my desire to be completely taken and ravaged till we all are a quivering pile of orgasmic bliss. **searching4U 38** ☐


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**EXPERIMENTAL FUN**
So this is a new one for me ... I am looking for someone to have regular interactions with but without much of the boyfriend/girlfriend BS. Someone to have bedroom fun with and try new things with. I would say I am pretty open minded and would try anything once. **RegularFunPlease 27** ☐

**STICKY WET PANTIES FOR SALE**
I'm 18, brunette, beautiful and broke as can be, looking to make some extra pocket money. $30 a pair. Message me for deets ☺ Happy to provide verification. **Alleycat 18** ☐

**BORED YOUNG THING, ENTERTAIN ME**
I'm currently single, living in Burlington and looking for some fun. I have never tried the couple thing so I am hoping to find a friendly young couple looking for a woman to spice up their sex life. I would love to play with the woman while the man watches (or participates too) ☺ **LadyLuck27 23**

**SEEKING SEXY, GEEKY FUN COMPANY**
Looking to cross paths with funny, sexy people that know when to be bossy and when to be affectionate (and even more points if you can be affectionately bossy). To share smiles and sighs and good times with. **Fabst8 41**

**COUPLE FOR PROMISCUOUS DESIRES**
Married couple of 20+ years, her: sexy, flirty, 37. Him: somewhat shy but very eager to please, 40, new to this, seeking another MW couple or woman to play with, spice things up a bit. She's bisurious. No man/man action. Both of us work full time, enjoy the outdoors, movies, dinner. Respect, discretion and pleasure. **PeachesnVT 37** ☐

## MEN Seeking?

**CLEAN, SMART, STRONG, FUN, RELAXED**
I'm healthy, fun, easygoing and strong. Looking to have fun and enjoy your beauty. Honest, smart and very not stingy. You can relax and be yourself with me. **Lmno, 34**

**LIKE THE 69'S**
I am not your regular Joe, and I will give you my all. Can you give me some of you? Whiskers on my face, want to feel them on you? **allitimer101 63**

**UP FOR ANYTHING**
I'm new to Vermont and am looking for some company. I'm tall and in good shape and aim to please. I haven't found anything yet that I'm not willing to try. I love helping people live out their fantasies in any way I can. **DrummerBoy1980 22,** ☐

**LIFE'S SHORT, LIVE WITH PASSION**
A mentally and physically safe guy who loves the pleasures of pleasing an attractive woman who enjoys a discreet relationship including friendship and intimacy. Touch base if you think we might hit it off. **natrips 51**

**MASTER SEEKS SUBMISSIVE MARRIED CUCKOLDRESS**
Dominant master seeks a discreet encounter or series of encounters with attractive submissive married woman. Your husband or partner may or may not be aware at your discretion. You should be prepared to role play in public and private and strict obedience will be rewarded generously. No junkies or addicts. I am clean and attractive, you should be too. **Secret_Encounters_36**

**FIRST CALL WHEN DESIRED**
Submissive and curious older male lover of curvy partners and strap ons would be for her pleasure. Open to male playmate, am a pleaser and desire to see to your adventurer. First timer here but very passionate. Have an active imagination and would like someone creative to explore with. **maturevter 58**

**SECRET TIMES**
GL man who seeks discreet companion. Not looking to change my life but would like some excitement and a woman to share intellectual and sensual times. DDF, clean, witty and loves to please a woman. Let's chat and see. **mandercell 56**

**CHASTITY SLAVE**
I have a chastity belt and am looking for a couple to dom-mate me. I could also watch them have sex or hear them have sex. I could do chores around the house (naked) and I like to be abused and humiliated in any way imaginable. I am clean and fit. **chastityslave 21** ☐

**FREE AND EASY**
Tall, grounded, attractive man looking for a fit woman who knows herself. **freeandeasy 48**

## OTHER seeking?

**SEXY, HOT AND BOTHERED**
Totally hot couple, not late, looking for a fun, lively, intelligent and hot woman to play and play and play with. Must... love good food, cocktail hour and just having fun. **for_the_bath_of_us 35**

**WANT SOME FUN**
Looking for a bit of play time. Am clean, D&D free. Like lots of soft kink. I like to start slow and as I get more comfortable can stretch in many directions. Any individuals and couples of any gender are most welcome. **Lookingtoplay 51** ☐

**SEXY COUPLE SEEKING GOOD TIMES**
Curvy, vivacious female, age 26 and tattooed and rotund male, age 24, seek attractive and intelligent female for play in the bedroom. We are both amazing in bed and are looking to both please another female and receive pleasure. If you are interested in having the most incredible sexual experience of your life, then contacting us is a must. **MrandMrsAwesome 26** ☐

**FUN, FREE, SEXY COUPLE**
Looking for same in ladies who want to have it all in bed or out. Let our favorite pastime include you. NSA, just sane, fun and frolicful. **bandy69couple 48**

**FUN 50S-ISH SWINGING COUPLE**
Early 50s ET married couple, good looking, intelligent, traveled, educated and fun. Looking for a couple for adult fun. Relatively new to area. Just getting back into swinging. No drugs/smoking. **Two2Play 52**

**OPEN-MINDED SEXY COUPLE**
White, 44, 52 yo m/f couple looking for fun with others. She's 5'5", curvy, redhead with a firm rack. He's 6'4", good equipment, lasts a long time, wants the ladies to be satisfied. We like a variety of play, share, swap, watch. Threesomes and foursomes are always welcome. We can entertain and are landlord-ly. Try us, you'll like us. **NaughtyinVT 51** ☐

**SMART, SEXY, OPEN MINDED**
Looking to meet a passionate, open minded, independent woman for an honest, dedicated relationship with an eye to LTR. Not interested in hookups or casual sex. BDSM experienced, but not requisite. Libertarian/anarchist/voluntaryist, 420, A+++. No lefty/commie socialists! A girl has to have standards. **laurenfg23 42** ☐

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*Your guide to love and lust...*

# mistress maeve



## Dear Mistress,

My boyfriend and I are thinking about hooking up with another couple. Neither of us has ever done the "swinging" thing, but we're curious to see what it's about. Problem is, I'm really in love with him, and I worry that we'll feel insecure or jealous. I think I'd be OK, but I guess you never know. And I don't want him to think I would ever cheat on him (unless, of course, we're all in the same room).

Any advice for the best way to deal with the situation? And why aren't there more normal, decent-looking couples like us looking for group sex?

Signed,
**Groupie**

## Dear Groupie,

Maintaining a healthy relationship while swinging is possible, but you're smart to be thinking about consequences ahead of time. Too many couples get burned when they barrel into nonmonogamy without doing the necessary prep work.

Before you have sex with another couple, talk to your partner — like *really* talk. Discuss why you're seeking pleasure outside of your relationship, and make sure it isn't because either of you is unhappy — a recipe for swinging disaster. As an exercise, imagine how each of you will feel when the first foursome encounter is over. What will you say to one another? How will you reconnect as a couple? You can stop worrying that you'll feel insecure or jealous — you probably will. The question is, how will you deal with those emotions as a couple?

When you're ready to find a willing couple, the internet is your friend. Living in Vermont has many perks, but a loud and proud swinging community isn't one them — you have to seek out the community online. And don't forget our kink-friendly neighbors to the north. Montreal is just a short drive away and offers a multitude of options for pleasure seekers of every stripe. Swinging in members-only clubs is legal there, and the clubs are easy to find by searching the web. Just remember to bring your passport and plenty of protection.

Swinging sensation,
**mm**

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**LADY YOGAGA YOUR FRIENDS ARE RIGHT**
Beautiful eyes lovely smile dimples to d e for brains and best of all no TV I know this is the longest of long shots but could I make you tea and hear your story? Me soloinVT P.S. What a sweet pup too **When Sunday March 24 2013 Where In a field of gold You Woman Me Man #911113**

**GLEEFUL DANCER AY THE SHED**
I dared to hold your waist while you were dancing to Buckshot a foot in front of me with your equally gleeful friend I was sitting on a bar stool against the wall Blue Jean shirt, a tie I don t know what got into me Its not like me but whatever it was I d like more of it **When Friday March 22, 2013 Where The Shed in Shelburne You Woman Me Man #911112**

**CITY MARKET CLERK**
At the check out late Saturday morning You were wearing a flannel shirt and are a bit taller than me I was wearing a brown jacket and blue knit hat We shared eye contact and a couple of smiles, I think I d like to do that again sometime perhaps over coffee Hopefully you ll see th s and think the same **When. Saturday March 23 2013 Where City Market. You Woman Me Woman #911106**

**NUTTY STEPHS**
We shared some fun times mixed with an eclectic group You have a honest smile and comfortable presence I bought you a shot of maple syrup Are you interested in meeting again? **When. Thursday March 21, 2013 Where: Nutty Stephs You Woman. Me Man #911105**

**IN LINE AT S BURLINGTON STARBUCKS**
We talked about banking and music I was truly startled by your eyes, I d love to buy you another latte someday soon. **When Saturday March 23, 2013 Where South Burlington Starbucks. You Woman Me Man. #911104**

**EL GATO PRINCESS**
You lost. I miss the nights I would come to El Gato and you with your dazzling smile great charm and cute curly hair I've been wondering were you have been I miss being wa ted on by you Coffee? Lunch? **When Friday March 22, 2013 Where El Gato Cantina. You Woman Me. Men. #911102**

**BIG PICTURE/GORGEOUS BRUNETTE**
You were there w th a friend and two young girls ...daughters? You left shortly after I came in We shared a glance Your friend was lovely but you w th your beautiful long black hair and amazing sm le Wow I've seen you one other time I wonder if you live n the Valley I would love to say hi ☺ **When Wednesday March 20 2013 Where Big Picture Theatre You Women Me Men. #911101**

**POODLE WALKER**
I saw you and a white poodle walking in Montpelier I went over to say hi, but was scared when your puffy dog tried to bite me W sh we could have chatted longer **When Yuesday February 26 2013 Where Hubbard Park. You Men. Me Women #911100**

**RE-RED FLOWER IN HAIR**
Both my fr end and I had red flowers in our ha r at JP's Pub on March 2nd Are you admiring the lady with long hair or short? **When Saturday March 2, 2013 Where JP's Pub You Man. Me Woman. #911099**

**THE O.P**
You harassed me when I was asking for popcorn and you were invited to our table I neglected to tell you that I have a boyfriend I may have led you on a bit, but I enjoyed your company Meeting people like you gives me hope for the future when I ll be single again Good luck with your Brooklyn adventures **When Thursday March 21 2013 Where the O P You Man Me Woman #911097**

**EMERGENCY COFFEE RUN**
Anyone w ll ng to make the coffee run when the office machine breaks down is my kind of people You were in scrubs at Starbucks on Shelburne Rd at 8 30 It was busy (and you were on a mission) and you left before I could ask your name I would like to buy your next latte and learn more about you **When Thursday March 21, 2013 Where Starbucks at 189 and Shelburne Rd. You Woman Me Man #911096**

**YOU SAW MY SECONO TATTOO**
You had the warmest, softest hands and endlessly deep eyes You shocked and touched my guitar No ring want to sing? **When Wednesday March 20 2013 Where FAHC. You Woman. Me Man #911085**

**THE MOST AMAZING WOMAN..**
in Vermont is actually from California I love you my darling Our love is a true blessing **When Sunday March 17 2013. Where Spare Time bowling alley You Woman Me Man #911084**

**LOVE AIN'T FOR KEEPING**
Who are you? Real good-looking boy Who am I? You said smart. Fun. Beautiful And the only gal who loves to kiss But I rem nd you of a former love I get it, but we've got sparks. (Cupid wasn't drunk.) Jeffrey can you hear me? **When. Sunday March 3 2013 Where anyway anyhow anywhere. You Man Me Woman #911082**

**DISTRACTION DURING MASS**
You were sitting with a group of older ladies had longer brown ha r and you were wearing a fancy grey suit, You seem like an interesting person and a cutie. Maybe we can get to know each other outside of church? Drop me a line and let me know what type of shirt you had on that day **When Saturday March 16 2013 Where St Francis Church, 3/16 4 p.m. You Man Me Women #911091**

**I SPY A TALL, DARK STRANGER**
Next to me at Dulno while we sang happy birthday to your friend Dan. I am blond at a table of wine, chicken and waffles We shared words and laughs But not enough Where can I meet you more? **When Monday March 11 2013 Where dinner You Man Me Woman. #911090**

**YOU WORK AT BEN AND JERRY'S**
You wet, curly black hair and glasses driving a green Subaru wagon Me jeans and work clothes We made eye contact at the gas pump and again in the store where you told me you were on your way to work at Ben and Jerry s Would like to meet you again Brian **When Wednesday March 13, 2013 Where gas station on North Avenue You Woman Me Men #911089**

**MISSY MY BUS RIDE CRUSH**
You and I locked eyes on the Shelburne Road bus so long ago Me w th my mohawk, you with your white hair and beautiful eyes I can't bel eve that after all that time you found me and remember so much I hope we can grow and fall for each other like I imagined us doing so long ago that day on the bus XoXo **When Thursday March 18 2010 Where Shelburne Rd. bus a lifetime ago You Woman. Me Man #911088**

**PIZZA VERITA WAITRESS**
Saturday the 16th. You were the cute brunette waitress who took my drink order I was the girl with the grey hat out with the old parents I'd love to see you again **When Saturday March 16, 2013 Where Pizza Verita You Woman Me Woman #911087**

**THE SEARCH**
Montpelier late February we met briefly at a doctor's office You long hair Me wearing a hat. I did not have time to chat but I gave you my number along with asking if you wanted coffee on a piece of paper when I was leaving I wondered if you would like to have that coffee/tea w th me and talk? **When. Tuesday February 26 2013. Where. Montpelier You Woman. Me Man #911085**

**QIGONG**
Practicing gathering chi by the Winooski River Friday March 15 The wind was brisk, your hat pulled low I was com ng out of yoga and wanted to meet but had to go Is there a group to practice with? **When. Friday March 15 2013 Where Winooski River. You Woman. Me Man #911084**

**LOUD TALKER**
We joked about the loud talker on the phone in Muddy Waters. You looked very busy on your computer so I did not want to bother you but It would be great to meet for coffee sometime **When Saturday March 16 2013 Where Muddy's You Woman Me Man #911083**

**MEGABUS GIRL**
You were engaging amazing smile, brown eyes. I wore red pla d I m glad I had the courage to talk to you We gave each other wrong numbers but you lit me up n a way that is too rare to ignore If there is any mutual feeling of intrigue, please allow an opening for our continued aquaintance **When Thursday March 7 2013 Where double-decker Megabus from Boston You Woman. Me Man. #911082**

**HEY SEXY PANTS**
Tall dark hair and handsome getting coffee every now and then on Church St Dark hair sexy orange pants and a goofy laugh Let's get a beer some t me **When Wednesday March 13 2013 Where Church St You Man Me Man #911079**

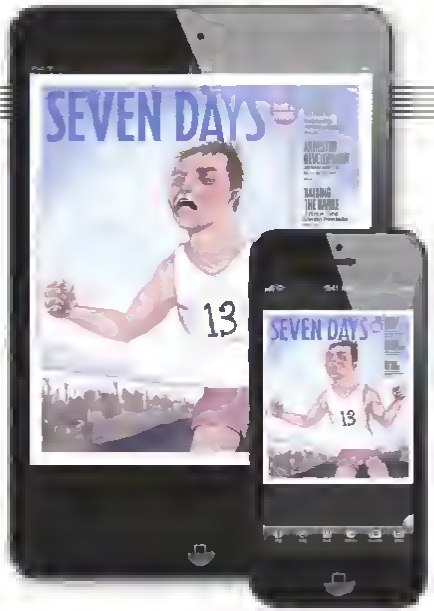
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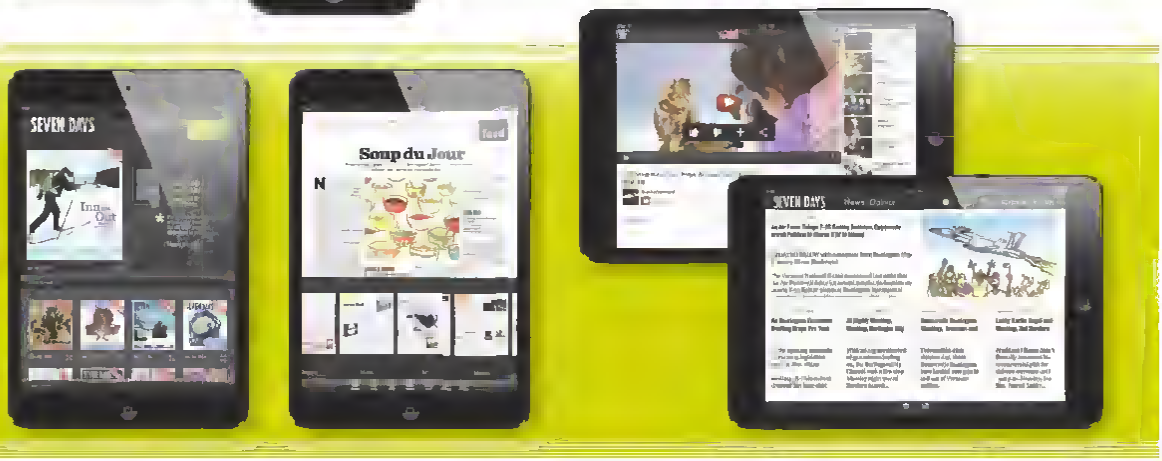



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